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Japan

Emergency Cooling System Averts Nuclear Accident

OW2909135292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1328 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Fukushima, Sept. 29 KYODO—An emergency core cooling system (ECCS) automatically shut down a nuclear reactor here Tuesday after abnormally low levels of cooling water were detected in the reactor core, officials said.

There was no leak of radioactivity, the officials said.

According to Tokyo Electric Power Co. officials, a high pressure condensation pump attached to the No. 2 reactor at the company's Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant stopped supplying cooling water to the reactor, causing the water level in the core to drop.

The cause of the pump shutdown was not immediately known.

The company officials said that the 784,000-kilowatt reactor began showing abnormally low water levels in the core at 3:30 p.m., when the reactor was operating at maximum capacity. The water level fell to 2.2 meters above the fuel rods from the usual level of 5.3 meters. The ECCS then began to function and the water level was restored through the pouring of water into the reactor core, they said.

The boiling water reactor, which is located in Okuma, Fukushima Prefecture in northern Japan, runs a high risk of leaking radioactivity-contaminated cooling water in case of an accident related to the cooling system, experts on nuclear plants said.

This was the second time in Japan that an ECCS, which rapidly pours huge amounts of water into a reactor's core, had worked when a reactor was malfunctioning, although they have also been mistakenly triggered three times in the past, the experts said.

In February 1991, abnormal levels of radioactivity set off an ECCS at the No. 2 reactor of Kansai Electric Power Co.'s Mihama nuclear power plant in Fukui Prefecture. No environmental damage was caused by the incident.

Human Error Blamed

OW3009122592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1201 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Okuma, Fukushima Pref., Sept. 30 KYODO—A worker mishandling a nuclear reactor's power supply console caused the emergency core cooling system to automatically halt the reactor Tuesday, officials said Wednesday.

No radioactivity leaked in the mishap at the No. 2 reactor of Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant in the town of Okuma in Fukushima Prefecture in northeast Japan, said prefectural and company officials.

After checking a spare high-pressure condensation pump, the worker misused the power console, causing a signal to falsely indicate the pump was on, which triggered the two other pumps to stop supplying the reactor with cooling water and causing the water level to drop in the reactor core, the officials said.

When abnormally low water levels were detected, the emergency cooling system automatically shut down the 784,000-kilowatt reactor and started pumping water into the core, they said. [passage omitted]

California Frozen Sushi Imports Considered

OW2909141792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1319 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—Samples of 960 frozen sushi meals imported from California will arrive in Osaka by air Wednesday, a Japanese sushi restaurant chain operator said Tuesday.

Fujio Matsumoto, president of the chain operator, Sushi Boy, said he will ask that the customs office allow the sushi to be imported as samples of processed fish products, rather than as rice.

Sushi, a traditional Japanese dish, is made of strips of raw fish and steamed rice.

The company's decision to import frozen sushi is controversial as Japan bans imports of rice.

No decision has been made yet by the government on whether to allow the frozen sushi imports, but a Finance Ministry official said import permits will be granted if the weight of the fish on rice exceeds 20 percent of the total weight.

Japanese travelers overseas are allowed to bring back up to 100 kilograms of rice. Matsumoto said the samples arriving Wednesday weigh some 30 kilograms.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Welcomes PRC-ROK Summit

OW3009085792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0830 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—Japan welcomed Wednesday [30 September] the outcome of the first-ever summit between former cold war rivals China and South Korea as important for regional peace.

"It is significant when leaders of China and South Korea, two countries that have an important role in maintaining peace and stability, engage in talks," Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato told a news conference.

He made the comment shortly after South Korean President No Tae-u and Chinese President Yang Shangkun

issued a joint communique and signed an array of economic and trade agreements closing out No's four-day visit to Beijing.

Kato declined to comment on how the rapprochement would affect Japanese normalization talks with North Korea. The next round of Japan-North Korea talks is expected for early November.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday he hoped for fast progress in normalizing relations between North Korea and Japan.

China, which fought on the North's side in the 1950-1953 Korean war, dealt a blow tc Pyongyang when it announced last month it was establishing relations with Seoul.

Commenting on North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam's criticism at the United Nations of Japan's plan to ship plutonium home from Europe, Kato said he believed Kim had "misunderstood" Japan.

Talks With DPRK 'Likely' To Reopen in Nov

OW2909141992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1409 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—The eighth round of the sporadic normalization talks between Japan and North Korea is likely to be held in Beijing on November 5-6, Japanese Government sources said Tuesday.

The seventh round of talks aimed at clearing the way for full diplomatic ties between Tokyo and Pyongyang were held in May and ended snagged over the inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities and Japanese compensation for victims of the war.

Pyongyang has since permitted a team of inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to check its suspect facilities and nuclear materials, but Japan is expected to press North Korea to comply with its agreement with South Korea to carry out inter-Korean inspections.

Tokyo will also urge Pyongyang to permit Japanese wives of Korean men who were repatriated to North Korea in the late 1950s to visit Japan, to which none have returned even for a short stay.

November's talks will be the first since China and South Korea agreed to normalize relations, so pressure may be on Japan for some progress in the talks as not to further isolate North Korea.

Pyongyang will likely continue to demand Japan pay compensation to the Korean victims of Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule over the peninsula and to Korean women forced to serve as wartime prostitutes to Japanese soldiers.

The eighth round of talks had originally been scheduled for July, but were postponed because of the IAEA inspections, inter-Korean prime ministers' talks, and the Japanese emperor's scheduled visit to China in October.

DPRK Foreign Minister Criticizes Nuclear Program

OW3009023692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0016 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] New York, Sept. 29 KYODO—North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam accused Japan on Tuesday of keeping "more nuclear fuel than it needs" and criticized its plan to bring plutonium by ship from Europe.

"The prevention of the emergence of any new nuclear power is another important issue in settling the nuclear problem," he told the United Nations General Assembly.

"In this connection, we could not but express our concern over the fact that, despite world condemnation, Japan is storing more nuclear fuel than it needs, and is even carrying out an adventurous plan involving the marine transportation of plutonium," Kim said.

Denying Western allegations that North Korea is engaging in a covert nuclear weapons development program, Kim insisted that Pyongyang has "no need to produce them."

"It is our firm will, in line with our invariable antinuclear peace policy, to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes and not to develop nuclear weapons," he said.

He implicitly expressed North Korean opposition to Japan's bid for a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council, saying a country which is not repentant about World War II aggression and crimes is not qualified for such a seat.

North Korea has accused Japan of glossing over its wartime behavior in history textbooks and criticized it for failing to pay compensation to "comfort women" who were forced into prostitution for front-line Japanese soldiers during the war.

Australia Agrees To Boost Defense Contacts

OW2909114792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1102 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—Japan and Australia have agreed to boost their bilateral dialogue on defense and peacekeeping matters, Australian Defense Minister Robert Ray said Tuesday.

Ray, who arrived Sunday as the first Australian defense minister ever to visit Japan, made the remarks to journalists prior to his departure for Canberra.

He said in meetings Tuesday with Japanese Government officials, including Defense Agency chief Sohei Miyashita and Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada, there was agreement to further boost defense contacts, which have been on the increase for the past several years.

"We will probably make the decision to have annual defense talks rather than biannually like we do at the moment," Ray said.

Ray said he and Japanese officials talked at length about United Nations peacekeeping activities, which Japan only recently joined, and agreed that representatives of the two countries should meet from time to time to share such experiences.

He noted that prior to last week's Japanese dispatch of military forces to Cambodia, Australian officials met three times with their Japanese counterparts to pass along some of Australia's peacekeeping experience.

"If there are other peacekeeping activities in the future, it's almost an absolute [word as received] that Japan and Australia will be serving side by side again," Ray said.

Ray said both countries will likely be asked to provide similar sorts of resources and services, namely in the indispensable medical, logistics, transport, and communications fields.

Asked if he sees an expanded role for the Japanese military in the Asia-Pacific region beyond peacekeeping, Ray replied that no country in the region, including Japan, sees any such role.

The defense minister said Japan's military forces, while not inconsiderable, are very much defensively configured. "That's not likely to change," he said.

He said Japan, as a dominant economic force in the world, is expected to concentrate on extending its influence into the diplomatic arena.

Australia, he said, supports permanent seats on the UN Security Council for Japan and "at least two or three other countries."

Ray said he had considerable discussions in Japan about prospects for setting up some kind of collective security system in the Asia-Pacific region in the manner of the Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe.

He said he and his Japanese counterparts pondered what existing regional mechanisms could facilitate efforts in that direction.

Mentioned as possible candidates were the 15-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum and the 13-member Association of Southeast Asian nations post-ministerial conference, he said.

But as a starting point, he said it is important to reinforce "the web of bilateral relationships in the region" as a means of promoting regional diplomatic stability.

MITI Asks Mexico To Ease NAFTA Burdens

OW2909120792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1142 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—Japan's trade minister asked Mexico on Tuesday to try to ease possible extra burdens on companies outside the new North American Free Trade Zone, Ministry of International Trade and Industry officials said.

MITI Minister Kozo Watanabe expressed concern to the visiting Pedro Noyola, Mexico's vice minister of commerce and industry, that Japanese companies might face higher duties after the "Maquiladora" bonded-area system is abolished under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), reached recently among Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

Watanabe asked Noyola to take appropriate measures to lighten tariff burdens on Japanese companies by cutting duties on such items as parts, the ministry officials said.

They quoted Noyola as saying Mexico does not want to be at a disadvantage to the U.S. and Canada in attracting investment.

Noyola proposed bilateral working-level talks on problems arising out of NAFTA to guarantee that Japanese businesses are not discriminated against, they said.

The Mexican official came to Japan as a special envoy of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Farm Minister Doubts Prompt End to Uruguay Round

OW2909053292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0455 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—Farm Minister Masami Tanabu expressed pessimism Tuesday over prospects for the prompt conclusion of the long-stalled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks.

Tanabu told a news conference after a cabinet meeting that it will be difficult to complete the round soon unless there is a new move by the United States and European Community (EC) over farm issues.

Tanabu stressed the need in the meantime for discussion of a draft agreement put forward last December by Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Tanabu also reiterated his call for the holding of negotiations to amend the proposal, called the "fourth track."

Regarding farm subsidies for oilseed, which have impeded the U.S.-EC talks, the director of the Farm Ministry's secretariat, Hirofumi Ueno, suggested that it would take a while to resolve the issue. It may not be settled at Tuesday's GATT council meeting, Ueno said.

Treaty To Protect Antarctic Environment Signed

OW3009023892 Tokyo KYODO in English 2315 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—Japan has signed an international protocol in Washington committing it to the comprehensive protection of the environment in the Antarctic, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

Japanese Ambassador to the United States Takakazu Kuriyama signed the protocol on environmental protection to the Antarctic treaty on Tuesday. It designates

Antarctica as a natural reserve devoted to peace and science, and to research essential to understanding the global environment.

The protocol, which supplements the December 1959 Antarctic treaty, was worked out at last October's consultative meeting in Madrid of the treaty's 40 contracting parties.

It establishes a committee for environmental protection for Antarctica, calls for contingency plans to respond to environmental emergencies, and provides a guide for the settlement of disputes.

The protocol also requires environmental impact assessments of proposed activities in Antarctica, regulates waste disposal, provides for the protection of native fauna and flora, prohibits the introduction of nonnative species, and requires the removal of dogs. [passage omitted]

Radicals Claim Responsibility for Rocket Attack

OW2909051492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0359 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—Radicals opposing the expansion of Narita Airport east of Tokyo have claimed responsibility for a homemade rocket attack Monday [28 September] on a professor's house in Tokyo, police said Tuesday.

The radical group Kakurokyo (Revolutionay Workers Party) issued a statement claiming responsibility for the attack on the home of Mikio Sumiya, former president of Tokyo Women's Christian University and a professor emeritus at the University of Tokyo, police said.

The statement said the group "bombarded and destroyed" Sumiya's house because he is a "slaughterer of farmers."

A 15-centimeter-long projectile, believed to have hit and dented the western wall on the house's second floor, was found near the house and a launcher was found set up at a chain-link fence in a park some 40 meters away, police said.

No injuries were reported in Monday's attack.

Sumiya, 76, has headed the airport mediation council since talks began last November between government authorities and local farmers opposing the international airport's expansion. He now heads a mediation council examining the government's right to expropriate land.

The shelling brought to 20 the number of suspected radical attacks this year.

Government Plans Measures To Stabilize Yen Rise

OW3009030092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0218 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata said Wednesday [30 September] steps will be taken through the bank of Japan to prop up the U.S. dollar in the foreign exchange market if the yen's sharp advance against the U.S. currency remains unabated.

Hata told reporters that Japan will contact other group of seven industrialized nations if the "unstable" exchange rate movements continue.

His comments came soon after the dollar hit a record low of 118.60 yen in the morning in Tokyo.

Hata said, however, that he believes the yen's advance stems from temporary factors.

Speculative buying is sending the yen higher as in the case of the German mark's rise that reflected remarks by German central bank officials indicating no further cuts in Germany's key interest rates, Hata said.

[Tokyo KYODO in English at 0230 GMT on 30 September adds: "The Bank of Japan (BOJ) will 'take adequate measures' to stem any 'excessively rapid' advance of the yen against the U.S. dollar, sources at the central bank said Wednesday.

["With Japan's international trade surplus swelling, however, the central bank wants the yen's rate to stabilize in the long run at a relatively high level to reflect the nation's economic fundamentals, the sources said.

["The dollar plunged to a record intraday low of 118.60 yen at one point in Tokyo morning trading.

["Masao Susaki, research department head at the Bank of Tokyo, said the yen's rise against the dollar reflects the power of Japanese economy, with the nation's current account surplus likely to top 100 billion dollars this year.

[" 'It is natural for the yen to strengthen in foreign exchange markets,' he said.

["The higher value of the yen, however, will hit Japanese exporting businesses, he said.

[" 'Should the yen rise to the 115 yen level to the dollar, the Japanese monetary authorities might have to consider another cut in the official discount rate,' Susaki said."]

Finance Official Says Rise Not Harmful

OW3009105492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—A top-ranking official of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) said Wednesday [30 September] the yen's rapid appreciation is not hurting the Japanese economy.

"Too fast an upswing in the yen is not good, of course, but the current level is not so detrimental to the Japanese economy," the official said.

"We did nothing (no intervention in the market) today," said the official, who spoke with Japanese reporters on condition of anonymity.

The dollar hit a record low against the yen in Tokyo interbank trading on Wednesday, sinking momentarily to 118.60 yen.

The official pointed out that major companies have already made exchange contracts through the year.

"A strong yen will also bring some benefits (such as lowering inflation) in the long-term," he said.

The official also said the ratio of indirect taxes to direct taxes should rise in the long run.

Currently, indirect taxes account for only 26.7 percent of total tax revenues in Japan.

The official said the tax burden should be spread thin on a wide range of people as the nation's population is rapidly aging.

Miyazawa Rules Out Bonds To Cover Deficit

OW3009081092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0413 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Wednesday dismissed a suggestion by a financial expert in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) that the government may have to issue deficit-covering bonds in fiscal 1993, starting next April 1, to make up for an expected shortfall in tax revenue.

Miyazawa said the chairman of the LDP Tax System Research Commission, Kabun Muto, was expressing his personal opinion rather than the view of the party when he said that in a "worst case scenario" the government may have to issue deficit-covering bonds.

Muto also called in a lecture Tuesday for study on boosting the consumption tax from its current 3 percent to 10 percent over the medium or longer term.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato said at a news conference Wednesday that he believed Muto intended to say that it would be difficult to issue deficit-covering government bonds because it would give rise to calls for income tax cuts.

Kato said the "conditions are not conducive" at present to consider slashing income tax.

Tax revenue is expected to fall next fiscal year as a result of the downturn in the domestic economy.

A senior government source said reduction of income tax should be considered in concert with an increase in the consumption tax rate, rather than issuing of deficit-covering government bonds.

But he said that public "allergy" to the consumption tax means a tax increase is not feasible.

The introduction of the unpopular consumption tax in 1989 led to a historic LDP loss in House of Councillors elections that summer.

Kanemaru Pays 200,000-Yen Fine in Sagawa Scandal

OW3009065192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0422 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—Shin Kanemaru, kingmaker of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), paid a 200,000 yen fine Wednesday for accepting 500 million yen in illegal political contributions from a scandal-ridden delivery firm, officials said.

The payment by an aide to Kanemaru, the former LDP vice president, followed a summary indictment against the 78-year-old power broker for violating the political funds control law.

The law bans politicians from accepting more than 1.5 million yen from a single individual or corporation in a year.

The indictment said Kanemaru and his secretary received the 500 million yen from the now-defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co. Shortly before the February 1990 general election.

The Tokyo summary court, acting on a summary indictment against Kanemaru, ordered him Tuesday to pay the the 200,000 yen fine.

Last Friday, Kanemaru submitted to the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors' Office a written statement admitting he accepted the 500 million yen from Hiroyasu Watanabe, former president of Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin, which was absorbed earlier this year into Sagawa Kyubin Co. of Kyoto along with several other regional delivery firms.

To Meet Miyazawa

OW3009065292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0459 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa plans to meet ruling party kingmaker Shin Kanemaru after the uproar surrounding Kanemaru's violation of the political funds control law subsides, Miyazawa's chief spokesman said Wednesday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato said a meeting would be "natural considering that until one month ago (Kanemaru) supported (Miyazawa) as vice president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)."

Kato told a news conference that no date had been set for the meeting, which he predicted would take place after "the situation calms down."

Kanemaru resigned the LDP post August 28 after admitting he received 500 million yen in illegal political contributions from the now-defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin trucking firm.

The LDP power broker, widely credited with backing Miyazawa's rise to the office of prime minister, paid a 200,000 yen fine Wednesday.

Kanemaru was charged with violation of the political funds control law which bars politicians from accepting more than 1.5 million yen in political contributions from any single individual or corporation in a year.

Kanemaru, 78, leader of the LDP's largest power bloc, is likely to resume political activities within a week, and possibly by Thursday, according to sources close to Kanemaru.

He has shut himself in his home in Tokyo since the August 27 press conference where he announced his resignation as LDP vice president and acknowledged the receipt of the 500 million yen from Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co.

To Resume Political Activities

OW2909140392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1316 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—Political kingpin Shin Kanemaru plans to resume political activities within the week, perhaps as early as Thursday, after paying his 200,000 yen fine for violations of the Political Funds Control Law, sources close to him said Tuesday.

Kanemaru recently admitted he accepted 500 million yen in illegal political contributions from the now-defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co. trucking firm and was fined by the Tokyo Summary Court.

The head of the strongest faction of ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Kanemaru indicated he has reflected upon the incident and is considering ways to devise some confidence in political reforms and attain the public's understanding.

Kanemaru plans to return to his political work at his home in central Tokyo and at the headquarters of the faction founded by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, according to the sources.

Members of the faction in the House of Councillors on Tuesday began initiating activities to pave the way for Kanemaru's return.

Kanemaru tendered his resignation as the head of the Takeshita faction but has continued acting as its chairman because of strong oppostion by factional members to his resignation.

But, with the resignation of right-hand man Ichiro Ozawa as acting chairman of the faction, Kanemaru and the group are left to fly with only one wing.

Kanemaru has been holed up in his residence since admitting August 27 he received illicit contributions, and faction members want the chairman to remain "dignified" while they plan the timing of his return.

Ozawa will continue to lead the faction until justice authorities have reached a decision, but it will be necessary to suppress intra-factional agitation until Kanemaru resumes political activities this week.

One senior official within the faction said he hopes Kanemaru will be able to take part in the faction's meetings next week and after in a "natural way as much as possible."

Attention, however, will be focused on an extraordinary session of the Diet expected to be called for October 30 and whether or not the LDP will be able to prevent the summoning of Kanemaru as a witness before the parliament.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who relies on the backing of Kanemaru, said he has not been in contact with the former LDP vice president, but added he plans to do so after a little time has elapsed.

To Retain Leadership of Faction

OW3009124492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—The ruling party's largest faction will stick to a leadership comprising power broker Shin Kanemaru and former party secretary general Ichiro Ozawa despite Kanemaru's involvement in a money scandal, political sources said Wednesday.

Kanemaru heads the 111-member faction of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) founded by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita. Ozawa has been helping Kanemaru as acting head of the faction.

Faction members reportedly have asked Kanemaru to remain as its chairman to prevent the collapse of the power bloc, although he offered to resign in a press conference held in late August, the sources said.

Former LDP vice president Kanemaru has admitted receiving 500 million yen in political donation from Hiroyasu Watanabe, former president of the now-defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co., who is currently standing trial.

Kanemaru told Ozawa he will resume his political activities in a few days when his deputy visited Kanemaru's house, the sources said.

At the meeting, Kanemaru asked Ozawa to retract his resignation as acting head of the faction, the sources said. Senior faction members also requested Ozawa to stay on.

The sources did not elaborate how Ozawa reacted to Kanemaru's request. But they said Ozawa will retract his resignation if backed by most faction members.

Ozawa submitted his resignation to Kanemaru because he was unable to prevent him from receiving a summary indictment filed September 28 for violating the Political Fund Control Law, the sources said.

Kanemaru on Wednesday paid a fine of 200,000 yen.

Keeping Kanemaru and Ozawa as faction bosses will have a big impact on an anticipated reshuffle of the

cabinet of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa as the faction has backed Miyazawa since helping him assume the party leadership in November 1991, the sources said.

Ministry Offers 'Employment Adjustment' Subsidies

OW2909093492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0908 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—The Labor Ministry said Tuesday it has designated 10 industries, including the blast furnace steel industry, as eligible for the employment adjustment subsidy.

Under the system, the government will shoulder a portion of the necessary costs for employers to temporarily place workers on leave or relocate their employees to tide over the period of economic stagnation.

The ministry said 476,000 workers in about 5,100 workshops operated by companies in the designated industries are eligible for the subsidy for a one-year period starting October 1.

The ministry's decision raised the number of industries eligible for the subsidy to 12, ministry officials said.

The officials said about 10 more industries are expected to apply for the subsidy in the near future, bringing the amount paid by the government to an estimated 1 billion yen to 2 billion yen in the current fiscal year, ending next March 31.

The 10 newly named industries include makers of plywood, heat-resistant bricks, steel pipes, cast iron, nonferrous metals—excluding die casting—and bearings.

White Paper Sees Scientific Research Growing

OW2909023592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0153 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—Scientific and technological activities in regions outside Tokyo are increasing as concentration of research bases in the metropolitan area tends to slow down, the science and technology agency said in its annual white paper released Tuesday.

The 1992 paper, titled, "Growing Regional Scientific and Technological Activities," took up regional scientific and technological activities in Japan as the main theme for the first time since the agency started publishing the white paper in 1958.

Minoru Kuniya, director of the research division of the agency's Science and Technology Policy Bureau, told reporters that the paper looks into the current situation involving science and technology in Japan and its regional implications from the perspective of overconcentration in Tokyo.

Corporations in the private sector are accelerating regional scientific and technological activities as they shift their research centers to outside the metropolitican region composed of Tokyo and its three surrounding prefectures of Kanagawa, Saitama, and Chiba, Kuniya said.

The white paper notes that research institutes of private firms and public organizations have been moving into regions outside the kanto area at a considerable pace for the past several years.

Local authorities are becoming more scientifically and technologically oriented, it said.

"The newly developed regional potential of science and technology is having a significant impact on the scientific and technological policy-making of the national government."

Noting that the private sector has recently established very few sizable research bodies in Tokyo, the report says the Kanto area saw its share of newly opened research institutes sharply reduced to 34.0 percent for the 1989-1991 period from 52.1 percent in the previous three-year period.

As research institutes find their ways into regions outside Tokyo, researchers at private organizations are gradually following suit, according to the white paper.

The paper concludes that research institutes, chiefly those of the private sector, are moving into regions outside Tokyo on the basis of its sector-by-sector analysis of the shifts in the regional distribution of such institutes.

The white paper also addresses the role science and technology play in regional development.

Kuniya said research institutes of local governments are being increasingly reorganized to conduct researches in new fields.

At present, some 15,000 scientists and technicians are working nationwide at nearly 600 local governmental institutes, Kuniya said. Many of these institutes were established since the meiji period that started in the late 19th century, with the aim of enhancing technological transfer to their regions in the agricultural and industrial fields, he said.

He also said research bodies established in a "third sector" form, such as firms funded by local governments, are on the rise, with the total number of such organizations standing at 121.

The paper says private institutes outside Tokyo have a tendency to concentrate in a limited number of areas near major cities in each prefecture.

Touching on growing interregional cooperation in scientific and technological research, Kuniya said, "It is possible for local authorities to join hands with the national government" in carving out policies in some fields.

He cited the difficulty of securing personnel and providing an "adequate living environment" for researchers in regions outside Tokyo.

The paper notes the need to improve the quality of regional science and technology, as well as to jointly work on policies and facilitate communication between the national and local governments to enhance "regional self-reliance, individuality, and comprehensive policy-making."

"The national government cannot dishearten regional independence. Our paper suggests local governments develop advanced science and technology, adding national policies to regional potentials," Kuniya said.

North Korea

PRC Envoy Hosts Reception Marking National Day

SK3009060592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi hosted a reception at the embassy Tuesday evening on the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

Ambassador Zheng Yi and Vice-President Yi Chong-ok made speeches there.

Zheng Yi said that the Korean people have made remarkable achievements drawing the attention of the world under the leadership of their great leader Comrade President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea over the past 40-odd years, consistently keeping to the road of socialism and displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle under the banner of the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural.

The Chinese people sincerely rejoice over the great achievements made by the fraternal Korean people, he stated.

To constantly strengthen and develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the parties, countries and peoples of China and Korea is an unshakable policy of the Chinese party and government, he said, and stressed:

We will in the future, too, support the Korean people's just cause of socialist construction and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Vice-President Yi Chong-ok said in his speech that over the last 43 years after the foundation of the PRC, the Chinese people have built a new socialist China in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, surmounting manifold obstacles and trials.

Pointing out that the Chinese people are making strenuous efforts to implement the ten-year plan for national economy and social development and the 8th Five-Year Plan, he said that the Korean people wish the Chinese people greater success in their efforts to build socialism with Chinese characteristics and reunify their country.

To develop the traditional Korea-China relations of friendship and cooperation is the will of the Korean people, he said, and stressed:

This friendship with a long historical root will be strengthened and developed by joint efforts of the peoples of the two countries.

Kim Yong-nam Meets Foreign Counterparts at UN

SK3009092192 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and foreign minister, who is attending the 47th UN General Assembly, on 23 and 24 September met with the foreign ministers of Cuba, Algeria, Ecuador, Colombia, Maldives, Brunei, Zimbabwe, Finland, and Armenia; the minister of foreign relations of Mongolia, and the minister of state for foreign affairs of Pakistan respectively in New York.

The talks proceeded in an amicable atmosphere.

South Said 'Currying Favor' With U.S., Japan

SK3009053992 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 30 Sep 92

["Humiliating Kowtowing to U.S. and Japan"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—No Tae-u of South Korea at the annual dinner of the Asia Society during his recent U.S. trip drivelled that the U.S. was the "leader in the Pacific region" and that South Korea and the U.S. would "remain permanent companions."

In his earlier talks with the Japanese foreign minister, No said South Korea would "maintain close ties with Japan" in promoting its separatist "northern policy."

NODONG SINMUN today brands this humiliating hokum of No Tae-u as a sophistry none but a pro-U.S., pro-Japanese flunkeyist traitor who lives in reliance upon outside forces could dare to let out.

The news analyst says:

The United States is not a "permanent companion" or a "friend" but an aggressor that stretched its hands of aggression to Korea with gunboats from the middle of the 19th century and occupied South Korea in place of the defeated Japanese imperialism after August 15, 1945, and divided Korea and imposed national disasters on the Korean people.

Japan subjected the Korean people to colonial slavery for more than 40 years, imposing all sorts of misfortunes and disasters on them. After her defeat, she has refused to repent of and apologize for her crimes and is threatening peace in Korea and Asia, dreaming of becoming a nuclear power.

Only despicable flunkeyist traitors to the country and the nation can cling to their sleeves.

The South Korean rulers, facing a serious crisis of their rule, isolated from the people, are trying to prolong their

remaining days by currying favor with their U.S. and Japanese masters. But this is a futile act.

Politburo Member So Chol Dies on 30 Sep

SK3009153792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 30 Sep 92

["Obituary of So Chol"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—So Chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, died from a long illness to our sorrow at the age of 85 at 06:30 on September 30, 1992.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee and the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea published an obituary of So Chol on September 30.

The obituary says that So Chol was a faithful revolutionary soldier who devoted his whole life to the struggle for the cause of national liberation, class liberation and socialist construction under the guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

He participated in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle organized and led by President Kim Il-song in the dark period of the Japanese imperialist rule and valiantly fought with arms in hand for the liberation of the country and the victory of the revolution, overcoming all tribulations and hardships.

He energetically took part in the work of expanding and strengthening the ranks of our party and firmly building up the people's power and the People's Army, upholding the line of building the party, the state and the army put forward by President Kim Il-song after the liberation of the country.

He contributed to the victory in the war by successfully discharging his combat duty at an important post of the people's army by strengthening the fighting capacity of the unit and powerfully arousing people's army soldiers in routing the enemy during the Great Fatherland Liberation War against the U.S. imperialists' invasion.

He struggled resolutely to carry through lines and policies of our party for the socialist revolution and construction after the war and devotedly worked to enhance the international prestige of our party and Republic and increase the supporters and sympathizers for our revolution, true to the chuche-based external policy of the party. He actively struggled to reunify the divided country and establish national sovereignty on a nationwide scale, upholding the policy of independent national reunification set forth by President Kim Il-song.

He worked devotedly to consolidate the organisational and ideological foundation of the party, establish a steel-like discipline within the party, strengthen the unity in ideology and purpose and revolutionary cohesion of the party ranks and develop our party into a revolutionary party of chuche type in response to the line of party building indicated by our party in the period when the modelling of the whole society on the chuche idea was being stepped up in full scale.

His was the life of a revolutionary of chuche type who fought with loyalty for the party and the leader and for the country and the people and his revolutionary traits was a model for our party members and working people. The feats performed by comrade So Chol for our party and revolution and for the country and the people will remain forever in the hearts of our party members and people.

Profile of So Chol

SK3009160092 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1530 GMT 30 Sep 92

["Brief History of So Chol"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—So Chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], was born into a poor peasant's family in [words indistinct] of Hamgyong Province, on April 21, 1907.

He took part in the glorious anti-Japanese armed struggle organized and led by the great leader President Kim Il-song in the dark period of the Japanese imperialist rule and actively struggled for the liberation of the country.

He joined the Young Communist League in May 1930 and the Korean People's Revolutionary Army in November [year indistinct] and, as a competent political worker, energetically conducted the party's political work within the unit, the work with local masses and the work of discrganizing the enemy troops, greatly contributing to expanding and strengthening the anti-Japanese armed ranks and wiping out the Japanese imperialist aggression army.

He strove to expand and strengthen the party ranks and enhance the function and role of the people's power at local party and government bodies after the liberation and helped toward the victory in the war by increasing the combat capacity of the unit at an important post of the people' army and carrying through the strategic and tactical policy of the party during the fatherland liberation war.

He actively worked to carry through the external policy of our party in the diplomatic field after the war.

He was ambassador to foreign countries from May 1955 to August 1958 and from May 1968 to December 1969 and chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries from March 1963 to April 1968.

He rendered meritorious services in strengthening the party's political work in the Korean People's Army [KPA] and implementing the party's military line while working at a responsible post of the General Political

Department of the KPA from September 1958 to August 1960 and from August 1977 to August 1979.

Working as director of a department of the party Central Committee from September 1960 to February 1963 and chairman of the Control Committee of the party Central Committee from January 1973 to July 1977 and from August 1979 to July 1989, he devoted himself to the consolidation of the organisational and ideological foundations of the party, strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the party ranks and the development of the party into an invincible revolutionary party. He was elected member of the party Central Committee from March 1958 and member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee from December 1969.

He was deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly from the 2nd term in 1959 to the 8th term.

So Chol was awarded the title of Hero of the Republic, "The Order of Kim Il-song", the highest order of the Republic, the Order of the National Flag First Class, the Order of Freedom and Independence First Class and many other orders and medals for his distinguished services for the stengthening and development of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK for the victory of the revolution and construction.

He remained unfailingly loyal to the WPK and the revolutionary cause till the last moments of his life and as a model of the revolutionary of chuche-type devoting his all to the party and the leader, the country and the people.

Daily on Ideological Theory, Propaganda Work

SK2809035192 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0008 GMT 24 Sep 92

[NODONG SINMUN 24 September editorial: "Let Us Further Deepen Propaganda Work in Keeping With the Demand of Ideological Theory"]

[Text] It is our party's firm policy to constantly deepen and develop the contents, form, and method of propaganda and agitation work in accordance with the demand of developing reality. To properly carry out the work of ideological indoctrination, it is important that the demand of ideological theory be thoroughly embodied in all propaganda and agitation work.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: Propaganda functionaries form a plan to vigorously carry out ideological work in keeping with our party's ideological theory. They should carry out ideological work practically.

Our party has maintained the ideological theory that the base of revolutionary struggle and construction work is the people's ideology and that it determines everything.

Our party's correct line, policy, and concern, including human remolding work and economic and cultural construction, are based on ideological theory. That is, our party's correct line, policy, and concern are consistent with ideological theory. All party organizations should vigorously and practically carry out ideological work in conformity with ideological theory.

The work to apply ideological theory to propaganda work is important for preparing and mobilizing the people ideologically and for proving ideological theory's great worth in real life.

Our people have sound ideology, firm revolutionary spirit, and indefatigable combat vigor to overcome any difficulties. Only when all party members and working people deeply realize the party's line and policy and only when they are awakened and mobilized ideologically can they brilliantly carry out all enormous revolutionary tasks.

Today, when the imperialists' maneuvers of reactionary ideological and cultural infiltration are unprecedentedly strengthened, our party members and working people have firmly defended the socialist cause without even the slightest faltering. The reality, in which they are waging a resolute struggle while upholding the banner of the revolution, clearly shows how important it is to vigorously do propaganda and agitation work to prepare and mobilize the people ideologically.

We are assigned the heavy task of thoroughly embodying the party's intent to further bring into full play the superiority of the socialism of our own style centering on the popular masses by prompting a great upsurge in production and construction in this significant year.

We are assigned unprecedentedly enormous tasks in all fields, including leading sectors of the national economy. Nothing is more important in accelerating socialist construction than the work of organizing and inspiring the people to carry out the revolutionary tasks by firmly preparing and mobilizing them ideologically.

Work to consolidate more firmly the single-hearted unity of our revolutionary ranks based on the chuche idea and work to bring into full play the political and ideological superiority of society greatly depends on how the party organizations conduct ideological work among the masses in keeping with the demand of ideological theory.

It is important in thoroughly embodying the demand of ideological theory in propaganda work for all party functionaries and propaganda functionaries to go down among the masses and deepen propaganda work in accordance with the degree of the masses' ideological preparation and obligation.

Propaganda work is to reform and bring into full play the people's ideology. It is creative work to be carried out with the people. Only when we tangibly understand the degree of the people's ideological preparation and their intent can we conduct propaganda work practically through contents and method suitable for the people.

Propaganda functionaries should regard it as their first duty always to go down among the masses; to work and live with them; to grasp the positive intent and good opinions of the party members and working people; and

to guide them. Functionaries who carry out ideological work should do their activities realistically where the masses live and work. Functionaries should regard it as their invariable rule that when going down among the lower echelons they should first meet the people before inspecting machines and facilities and should bring ideology into full play. When they grasp and press ahead with any work, they should always put political and ideological factors before technical and procedural factors. Only then can they discover methods and correctly embody the demand of ideological theory.

Our party members and working people have a firm ideological theory. Their enthusiasm to uphold the party's leadership and to glorify the socialism of our own style is very high.

All functionaries, including propaganda functionaries, should go down among the masses to talk and mix with them. They should lead the party members and the working people to make it a rule of faith, conscientiousness, morality, and life to be loyal to the party and the leader. They should find in a timely manner a positive example of a case of loyalty. They should widely introduce and propagandize the example. For everyone responsibly to fulfill assigned tasks as masters as required by the chuche idea and to be firmly confident in the socialism of our own style, all functionaries should deepen ideological work.

Party organizations and functionaries should conduct the propaganda and agitation work through various forms and methods in accordance with specific circumstances and condition. Reality constantly develops. The condition of the people's ideology and spirit is not invariable, either. For this reason, they should freshly and vividly conduct propaganda work based on a tangible plan.

To increase the masses' revolutionary enthusiasm and prompt an upsurge in production according to specific conditions, situations, and assigned management tasks of the units concerned, propaganda functionaries should deeply study to know not only what kinds of propaganda means they should use but also what kinds of forms and methods to use.

It is very important to follow positively and embody the anti-Japanese guerrilla propaganda and agitation method. Even though all circumstance were unfavorable because of constant battles and marches, the anti-Japanese guerrillas vigorously conducted the masses-oriented political work through simple and militant methods. Propaganda functionaries should also carry out freshly and vigorously all propaganda and agitation work. When they hold individual interviews, seminars, and collective study even once, they should hold them after understanding the characteristics of a target and the specific condition of the units concerned. Only then can they produce good results. When they conduct propaganda and agitation work among workers, propaganda functionaries should militantly do the work in accordance with workers' characteristics; when they carry out propaganda and agitation work among peasants, they should humorously do the work in harmony with peasants' characteristics.

Good experiences of deeply studying the great leader's reminiscences through various forms and methods are being created in many units across the country. By positively using such experiences, the party organizations and propaganda functionaries should lead the party members and the working people to more practically study the reminiscences and to deeply grasp the greatness of the respected and beloved leader through their study.

The party organizations and functionaries should pay much attention to doing propaganda work genuinely and kindly. Truthfulness, scientific characteristics, and kindness should be ensured in indoctrination work of ideology to reform and bring into full play the people's ideology.

Whenever enormous tasks and difficulties arose in revolution and construction in the past, our party genuinely informed the people of the party's plan. The party aroused the broad segments of the masses to miracles and exploits by touching their heartstrings.

Reality shows that for the party members and the working people to realize correctly the essential superiority of socialism and to have a deep revolutionary faith, it is very important to carry out propaganda work genuinely and scientifically with the masses' support. Only when the broad segments of the masses, including workers and peasants, correctly realize the truth of our party's policy can they struggle to fulfill it through thick and thin.

For all party members and working people to deeply realize not only the essence and validity of the party's line and party but also the inevitability of the victory of socialist cause, propaganda functionaries should basically explain to them the party's line and policy. They should realistically do propaganda work together on the issues that concern the masses.

To revise and strengthen propaganda work required by ideological theory, the level of political theory and quality of the propaganda functionaries who are directly in charge of propaganda work should be enhanced.

Our party's ideological theory embodies the philosophical theory centered on the people and social and historical theory. By strengthening the study of the principle of the chuche idea, propaganda functionaries should deeply realize the truth that the popular masses' independent ideology and consciousness play a decisive role in revolutionary struggle. They should always prepare themselves to brilliantly realize the demand for conducting propaganda work based on ideology.

The party organizations should positively help and lead all propaganda functionaries to be competent functionaries who are well versed in the party's policy, which is

the embodiment of the chuche idea, and who are sharp politically, sensitive to situations, and equipped with rich knowledge and cultural achievements. In particular, the party organizations should pay deep attention to increasing the political and procedural qualities and the roles of the primary-level propaganda functionaries, including agitators and study instructors.

Daily Stresses Collective Economic Management

SK1909065792 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0007 GMT 14 Sep 92

[NODONG SINMUN 14 September special article: "Collectivist Method of Economic Management Is a Powerful Way To Bring Into Full Play the Superiority of the Socialist Economic System"]

[Text] The socialist economy is managed by a method that is in conformity with it. This method of economic management also greatly influences the strengthening and development of the socialist economic system as a whole.

The socialist economic system was established on the basis of liquidating the capitalist economic system in a revolutionary way. Therefore, the method for its management should be new and also based on the socialist principle.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has pointed out: All methods of economic management that are applied to socialist economic management should be carried out by a collectivist method. In other words, the method of socialist economic management should be based on collectivism and should be carried out by a method of economic management that will implement it.

To manage the socialist economy by a collectivist method means solving all problems in economic management with the strength and wisdom of the collective in conformity with the demands and interests of the social collective. The method of collectivist management is a management method brought forward by the intrinsic demand of the socialist economic system.

The socialist economic system is an economic system based on collectivism. Because the method of economic management is established by reflecting on the nature of the social economic system, economy must be managed in a collectivist way in the socialist economic system based on collectivism.

If there is discord in the method of economic system and economic management, the method of economic management cannot become a driving force in consolidating and developing the economic system.

The principle of applying the method of economic management in a socialist society is to meet the demands of individuals satisfactorily on the basis of primarily meeting the demands of the social collective as required by collectivism, and to display prominently the creativity of all members of the collective while placing the primary stress on the unity and cooperation of the social collective and consolidating them.

In socialist economic management, our party maintains the principle of giving priority to the political method and properly combines it with the economic and technical method and the administrative and organizational method.

The method of economic management presented by our party correctly embodies the collectivist demand of socialism to the economic management. Therefore, this makes it possible to consolidate and strengthen the socialist economic system and highly manifest its superiority. This becomes the most correct method of socialist economic management.

The chuche method of managing the socialist economy makes it possible, first of all, to bring the advantages of the socialist economic system into full play by raising the revolutionary enthusiasm and creative positiveness of the masses.

The superiority of the socialist economic system lies in manifesting to the utmost the revolutionary enthusiasm and creative strength of the popular masses, its master. The popular masses' revolutionary enthusiasm and creativity are most highly manifested when they firmly unite in a comradely way with high political and ideological awareness that they are the masters of economy.

In order to induce the popular masses to participate in economic construction as masters, one must rely on the socialist method based on collectivism, not on the capitalist method based on individualism.

The political method is a most important method of managing the socialist economy, which was revealed by our party. The political method in the management of socialist economy calls forth revolutionary enthusiasm and creative positiveness of the producer masses so that they can be organized and mobilized to fulfill the economic tasks. The political method functions most actively in realizing the collectivist principle.

In socialist economic management, we should constantly enhance the producing masses' political and ideological consciousness and strengthen their unity and cooperation with primary emphasis on political method. This is the only way all economic management methods can be correctly applied in conformity with the collectivist nature of the socialist society and its superiority and vitality be fully displayed.

Emphasizing the political method means giving priority to political work over all other work. Giving priority to political work is the way to vigorously mobilize the popular masses into the fulfillment of revolutionary tasks by inspiring their ideology with primary emphasis on ideology as the basis. The political method leads the masses to arm themselves with the leader's revolutionary ideology and the party's economic construction line and policy, thereby leading them to display high revolutionary zeal and creative positiveness in carrying out

economic tasks with the awareness and collectivist spirit that they are the masters of the economy.

When we organize economic work we should always grasp the work of indoctrinating people as the first process in conformity with the demands of the political method; and vigorously carry out the political propaganda and economic agitation of making people clearly aware of the purpose, significance, and implementation method of economic tasks. At the same time, economic guidance functionaries should always mingle with the producer masses and enhance collectivist strength and wisdom to the maximum. By doing so, the socialist economic system's superiority can be fully exalted and constant upsurges can be made in economic construction.

The chuche-oriented socialist economic management method also firmly guarantees the state's unified and planned guidance to the economy and thus makes it possible to constantly strengthen and develop the socialist economic system.

The economic basis in socialist society is the social ownership of the means of production. The social ownership of the means of production indispensably demands the state's unified and planned guidance of the economy.

In the socialist society, the country's economic potential can be mobilized to the maximum, the economy can be rapidly developed in conformity with the popular masses' demands, and the socialist economic system can be strengthened and develop only under the state's unified and planned guidance.

Our party adheres to the economic and technological method in realizing the state's unified and planned guidance to the economy. This is a scientific and reasonable economic management and operation method which makes it possible to smoothly realize the objective economic rules of the socialist society and the scientific and technological demands in production in conformity with the collectivist principles.

The economic and technological method demands that all management activities be grasped, planned, and organized in a unified manner. The planning of management activities is an indispensable requirement for socialist planned economic and modern mass production.

Only when economic organs and enterprises plan their management activities according to the party's line and policy and the state's unified national economic plan can the economy be developed in conformity with the common interests of the society and the socialist expanded reproduction be smoothly realized by correctly guaranteeing the complicated and various linkage among production units which forms one economic organic body.

The organization of management activity is an important management method to display the superiority of the large modern economy in which production simultaneously and successively proceeds based on highly developed division of labor and current jobs. The basis for organizing management activity is to scientifically establish economic management order and criterion based on collectivism, and all members should strictly abide by it.

The organization of management activity demands that economic organs and enterprises establish a realistic and scientific plan based on a strict economic and technological calculation, and that they carry out substantial organizational work, assessment, and summing up work for its realization. This also makes it possible for the state's unified and planned guidance to be smoothly carried out by perfectly conducting the organizational work that dovetails relations among production units into the proceeding turn and order of every production process, and relations among all the [word indistinct] works of the management activity into the work proceeding procedures.

The important part of the economic and technological method is to strengthen the scientific and technological guidance in production. This is an important method designed to enhance production efficiency by correctly accounting technological factors in planning production, in accordance with the scientific and technological demand of production, by giving priority to technological preparation in production, and by keeping excellent technological maintenance.

Turning production guidance into scientific and technological guidance, along with planning and organizing the management activities at a high level, are modern and scientific methods corresponding to the modern large society.

Therefore, only when the economic and technological method is more deeply embodied as the socialist economy develops, can the socialist economic system be consolidated and developed and its superiority can be fully advanced.

The chuche-oriented socialist economic management method guarantees consolidation and development of the socialist economic system, by enabling one to rationally use economic spaces for economic management.

The socialist society is a lower stage of the communist society and has transitional as well as communist aspects. Therefore, both the revolutionary method, which strengthens the communist aspect, and economic spaces, which represent the transitional aspect of the socialist society, are used in the socialist economic management.

The economic rules and regimes representing the transitional aspect should be used as economic spaces that stimulate and control one to realize even better the collectivist principles.

The chuche-oriented socialist economic management theory presents principles and methods to use economic rules and regimes representing the transitional aspect as economic means that serves the purpose of realizing the collectivist principles.

The chuche-oriented economic management method enables one to adhere mainly to the political method and, based on it, to adopt material incentives as economic means to realize the collectivist principles even better.

This is realized through the independent economic accounting system and the socialist distribution principle, under which the more a producer group and producers contribute to the country and society, the more rewards they receive.

The chuche-oriented economic management method enables economic regimes such as the basic cost, prices, profits, and earnings to be correctly used as supplementary means for the planned and balanced development of the people's economy and for rationalization of enterprise management, thus making all economic rules and regimes representing the transitional feature serve the purpose of embodying the collectivist nature of the socialist society.

To correctly embody the chuche-oriented economic management method, it is imperative to thoroughly guarantee the party's leadership. The party's leadership is the lifeline of the socialist economic management and the basic source of its superiority and vitality.

Only when the party's leadership is correctly guaranteed can the popular masses' demands and interests be thoroughly realized in economic activities; can the problem of elevating their creativity be correctly solved; can the revolutionary principle in economic management be firmly defended; and can the socialist economic system be continuously consolidated and developed.

With the chuche-oriented economic management method as the guiding principle, our party is leading the socialist economic construction to brilliant victory without the slightest tilting or twists and turns, by wisely organizing and leading the struggle to solve socialist economic management problems.

It is our people's great pride to embody the socialist economic management method with the most superior socialist economic management theory under the party's wise leadership.

South Korea

U.S. Suspends Retaliation Against ROK Shippers

SK3009064992 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Sep 92 p 8

[Text] The U.S. Federal Maritime Commission [FMC] has recently decided to shelve its planned retaliatory action against Korean shipping companies deploying merchant ships to U.S. ports following the Korean government's decision to abolish alleged discriminatory practices against U.S. shipping firms in Korea.

The FMC announced that the sanctions—one dealing with Korean trucking restrictions and the other with Korea's freight consolidation restrictions—will be suspended until June 1, 1994, and Sept. 1, 1993, respectively.

But the commission said, "However, sanctions may be imposed if there is no progress in the Korean government's efforts to open its shipping and trucking markets, as agreed upon in the Aug. 5-6, 1992, bilateral maritime talks."

It concluded that it unanimously found conditions unfavorable to shipping exist in the U.S.-Korean ocean liner trade both as a result of restrictions imposed by Korea on U.S. carriers' ability to engage in trucking and through-transportation movements and due to the Korean law that prohibits American freight forwarders and non-vessel operating common carriers from doing business in Korea.

The commission also determined that sanctions were justifiable because of these conditions and voted to impose them. But it suspended them to allow the negotiated agreements to be fully implemented in light of recent commitments to remedy these discriminatory practices, said an FMC press release.

"If implemented pursuant to the promised time frame, the commission would eliminate the suspended sanctions altogether," it said.

But the commission said that it would decide on the railroad transport market issue after reviewing additional reports from shipping companies of both countries.

The FMC also ordered Korean shipping companies to report on the progress of the revision of Korea's related maritime law to the commission via the U.S. Maritime Administration.

But the Korean government yesterday expressed displeasure against the FMC decision, saying that there are too many conditions in shelving the retaliatory action although it reached agreement with the U.S. to eliminate alleged unfair practices against U.S. shipping firms doing business in Korea.

In this connection, an official of the Korea Maritime and Port Administration said that the administration conveyed its displeasure to the U.S. government via the U.S. Embassy on Sept. 25.

The KMPA also conveyed its dissatisfaction to the branch office chiefs of American President Lines (APL) and Sea-Land Service, both U.S. firms.

The official said that it would also protest the FMC's decision via Korean shipping companies.

No Tae-u Returns Following Visit to PRC

SK3009104392 Seoul YONHAP in English 1030 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u arrived back in Seoul on Wednesday evening after a historic four-day state visit to China, where he ended

more than 40 years of hostility and provided a "turning point" for closer ties between South Korea and China.

No was greeted at the airport by National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu, Chief Justice Kim Tok-chu and such political leaders as Kim Yong-sam of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], Kim Tae-chung of the Democratic Party and Chong Chu-yong of the minor Unification National Party [officially renamed United People's Party].

No, addressing a welcome-home gathering at Seoul Airport, said his visit to China "put an end to the era of severance and became a turning point for an epochal improvement in bilateral relations."

Meanwhile, DLP spokesman Pak Hui-tae issued a statement appraising No's trip as a result of his nordpolitik.

"President No's visit to China was a great fruit of the Sixth Republic's consistent pursuit of the northward policy and his achievement will play the role of locomotive for the unification of South and North Korea," he said.

Makes Arrival Statement in Seoul

SK3009112392 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1024 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Statement by President No Tae-u upon arrival at Seoul Airport following his official four-day visit to the PRC—live]

[Text] Dear people: I am now extending my greetings to you, the people, after completing my four-day official visit to the PRC.

I completed my visit to China and return with a sense of great hope for the bright future of the nation and the people.

The Chinese Government and people politely and warmly greeted the ROK president and my entourage who visited China for the first time.

This was a lofty assessment of our nation which has achieved brilliant development in this generation and was the expression of deep friendship toward a neighbor, which has lasted for several thousand years.

Even though my visit to China was only for a short period of four days and three nights, it overcame the rupture between the two countries that lasted almost half a century, and a turning point was provided in bringing about a momentous development in relations between the two countries. I believe it will be a significant opportunity in achieving peace and prosperity in Northeast Asia and in achieving our reunification. Our two countries have now become new partners to open together the 21st century of the Asia-Pacific era.

Fellow countrymen:

The day after I arrived in Beijing, I held a summit meeting with President Yang Shangkun and sincerely discussed various ways to promote good-neighbor, friendly, and cooperative relations between the two countries. I also exchanged beneficial dialogues with CPC General Secretary Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng.

President Yang Shangkun and I both recognized that the deep-rooted friendship between the two countries, which was formed through long history, and the practical relations that have been greatly expanded through recent years are the basis for achieving a new partnership. To overcome the past unfortunate experiences and the rupture of history between the two countries, President Yang Shangkun said that we should make further efforts to develop friendly and cooperative relations. President Yang Shangkun and I both recognized that close development of relations between the two countries will greatly contribute to new prosperity. We decided to exert our utmost efforts to achieve this.

The two countries agreed to further widen the range of exchanges and cooperation in various fields including the economy, trade, science, technology, communication, culture, and sports.

During my visit to Beijing, the two countries concluded a trade agreement, an agreement to guarantee investment, an agreement on cooperation in science and technology, and an agreement on establishing a joint committee on economy, trade, and technology. Moreover, other systematic devices, such as an aviation agreement and a maritime transport agreement, that can promote relations between our two countries will be provided soon.

Because the economic structures of the ROK and China are complementary, the possibility for practical cooperation has increased greatly. China is already our fourth-largest trading partner. Along with the establishment of diplomatic relations, the volume of trade between the ROK and China will increase rapidly. China welcomed our investment and expressed the hope that we will be able to participate in its Eighth Five-Year Plan. If China presents its detailed plan, we agreed to actively participate in China's economic development based on our experiences and technology.

I also met leaders from various social strata, including businessmen who have great expectations for the two countries following the establishment of diplomatic relations, and requested that relations be developed on the private level as well as the government level. President Yang Shangkun and I agreed that the two countries will closely cooperate to achieve peace, security, and prosperity in Northeast Asia.

The leaders of China and I agreed that the Korean peninsula should be reunified independently and peacefully as one nation. China expressed the position that it will actively cooperate to achieve this.

I informed the Chinese leaders in detail on the true significance of the northern policy which we pushed ahead with up to now and on our efforts for reunification.

I noted that the ROK is making every effort for dialogue and cooperation with North Korea and expressed my hope that North Korea will come to the road of reform and opening up at an early date and that they will fully play the role of a responsible member of international society.

I stressed that we do not want North Korea to be isolated but want to achieve a reunified country where all members of the nation can enjoy freedom and happiness based on coexistence and co-prosperity of North and South Korea.

Regarding this, we expressed our position that the North Korean nuclear issue, which not only we, but also the world are worried about, should be resolved at an early date.

The Chinese leaders also shared our view that the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is important for peace and security in Northeast Asia. We agreed to make joint efforts concerning this.

The meeting at this time between myself and the Chinese leaders was indeed a precious occasion for understanding each other and for opening a future for the two countries.

Dear people: Since I assumed the presidency, I have made every possible effort to open the era of reunification of the Korean peninsula and to expand the stage of activities of the Korean people to the entire world.

To open the door widely on the road toward Pyongyang, I opened the road, first of all, leading to the former Soviet Union, many East European nations, and the United Nations. I have now opened the road to Beijing, the last gateway.

I am very pleased, together with you, the people, that I could substantively finalize the northern policy.

The most precious result I obtained during a long journey, equivalent to circling the earth six times, is that we independently opened the road to reunification.

The dynamic dialogue being held between the North and the South along with changes in the international order will expedite our reunification date. Whenever I visited overseas, I could confirm that our nation has become a magnificent country standing on the center of the world and that the world's expectation of us is very great.

My northern policy is a success jointly attained by all of the people who actively supported it.

Dear people: I stopped in Shanghai on the way home and toured the building of the former provisional government of the ROK. Visiting the place where our patriotic forefathers struggled by devoting everything to the liberation of the nation and people when we lost our nation, I felt the warm presence of our patriotic forefathers.

By overcoming the history which was filled with the pains we suffered because of our national weakness, we have now realized a magnificent country.

A democratic and prosperous reunified country is the very shape of the fatherland which our patriotic forefathers did not forget, not even for a moment.

I will make every effort, together with you, the people, to more firmly consolidate the foundation for prosperity, reunification and for becoming an advanced country.

Thank you.

Business Group To Invest in Georgian Industry

SK2409013792 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 23 Sep 92 p 6

[By correspondent Hong Song-kyun from Tbilisi]

[Text] On 21 September, Kim Sung-yon, chairman of the Korea Explosives Group [KEG], and Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the State Council of Georgia, signed an investment agreement allowing the KEB to invest in Georgian oil refining, communications, aviation, and automobile industries.

Prior to the signing, Chairman Kim and Chairman Shevardnadze held talks and agreed that the KEG will dispatch its business management experts to Georgia to provide advice and suggestions on economic plans to the Georgian Government which is turning its communist economic system into a market economy system after the collapse of the former Soviet Union. They also agreed to send technicians from oil refining and communications fields in Georgia to relevant companies of KEG for orientation and training.

This is the first time that a civilian business group has concluded an agreement on comprehensive investment with the government of a foreign country to participate in its development plans.

According to the investment agreement signed that day, the KEG will supply crude oil to an oil refining plant, which has an annual production capacity of 3 million tons in Batumi on the Black Sea coast. After refining the crude oil, it will export 50 percent and put another 50 percent for domestic use in Georgia.

This agreement also stipulates that the KEG will participate in Georgia's plan for modernizing its backward communications facilities and will manufacture them and transfer the management technique to Georgia.

North-South Joint Nuclear Control Panel Meets

SK3009115292 Seoul YONHAP in English 1139 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—South and North Korean officials Wednesday discussed rules for mutual nuclear inspections at Panmunjom.

At the second members contact of the eighth South-North Nuclear Joint Commission meeting, the South suggested that the two sides exchange the lists of about 50 inspectors within 10 days of the effectuation of

inspection rules and that each inspection team be formed with less than 20 from among the listed persons.

The North, however, asserted that an inspection team should comprise 15 inspectors for the inspection of a suspected nuclear arms base and five inspectors for a nuclear material site or a nuclear facility.

The North Koreans also maintained that as many inspection teams as the number of the sites to be inspected should be operated at the same time.

Also by insisting that the lists of inspection team members should be exchanged ten days before inspections, the North in effect reaffirmed their rejection of any unscheduled inspection of nuclear facilities and sites.

The two sides decided to have the third Nuclear Joint Commission members contact at Panmunjom on Oct. 14 to carry on discussion.

North-South Liaison Contact Sets Nampo Visit

SK3009114092 Seoul YONHAP in English 1108 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—South and North Korea agreed Wednesday afternoon that a 14-member South Korean feasibility survey team would visit the North for four days beginning Oct. 6 to look into the Nampo industrial estate project.

At a liaison officials contact held at Panmunjom, the two sides decided that the joint government-private team would comprise 14 members including three government officials and that it would be headed by Kim Ok-nyon, chief of the Daewoo Group's secretaries office.

At the contact, the South handed to the North the list of the 14 team members while the North delivered to the South a detailed itinerary and a memorandum guranteeing the personal safety of the visitors.

The team will enter the North via Panmunjom at 10 a.m. Oct. 6 and will drive to Pyongyang through the Pyongyang-Kaesong expressway.

During their stay in the North through Oct. 9, the team will observe the site reserved for the Nampo estate and the Nampo sea dike.

The team members will also visit the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the Ministry of External Economic Affairs.

At Wednesday's contact, the two sides also agreed that Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu would visit Pyongyang on Oct. 14-18 at the official invitation of the North's Administration Council Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon.

Choe will be accompanied by seven aides and two correspondents. Liaison officials will meet again on Oct. 9 to discuss working-level matters regarding Choe's visit.

DPRK Minister Demands Inspection of U.S. Bases

SK2909231792 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Report by correspondent Kim Yong-tae from UN Headquarters]

[Text] North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam has insisted that the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula has not been resolved because of the U.S. Army's nuclear weapons, not because of North Korea.

In his keynote speech at the UN General Assembly today, Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam suggested that South and North Korea conduct nuclear inspection of U.S. Army bases in South Korea first, clearly avoiding answering the ROK's demand for South-North bilateral nuclear inspection.

Minister Kim also insisted that suspicions about North Korea's nuclear development have been eliminated since the International Atomic Energy Agency's nuclear inspection. He said the United States and the ROK's allegation that U.S. nuclear weapons do not exist in South Korea is hard to believe.

DPRK-Japan Talks Reported To Reopen in Nov

SK3009024192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0134 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—North Korea and Japan will resume talks on normalizing their relations in Beijing by early November, the Japanese economic daily SANKEI SHIMBUN said Wednesday.

The meeting, the eighth to discuss normalization, had been slated for the end of July but was delayed due to the inter-Korean high-level talks, the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors' meeting, and Japanese Emperor Akihito's scheduled trip to China.

A bumpy road is expected for the meeting, the paper said, as Japan is to reiterate its position that inter-Korean mutual nuclear inspections are a precondition for diplomatic relations while North Korea is expected to reject the condition on the grounds that it has followed the nuclear inspection procedures specified by the IAEA's safeguards accord.

The gathering draws keen attention in North Korea's attitude as it will be the first such meeting since South Korea and China set up diplomatic relations, SANKEI added.

Parties Support No Tae-u on Neutral Cabinet

SK2809032392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0244 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 28 (YONHAP)—Leaders of three political parties expressed their support Monday for President No Tae-u's Sept. 18 declaration for neutrality in the presidential election and decided to leave the task of forming a neutral cabinet to the president.

Meeting at the National Assembly, the leaders also agreed to normalize the nation's unicameral legislature at an early date. The National Assembly has been idled since it was inaugurated in late June due to disputes over local elections and other issues.

Kim Yong-sam, president of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], Kim Tae-chung, leader of the Democratic Party, and Chong Chu-yong, leader of the Unification National Party [officially renamed United People's Party], decided to provide their views, if asked by the president, on the formation of a neutral cabinet to oversee the presidential election.

But the leaders will refrain from naming their choices for the post of prime minister, informed sources said.

In order to help normalize the National Assembly, the leaders decided to ask the speaker and floor leaders of the parties to handle the problems of appointing chairmen of the standing committees.

In addition, they have decided to reorganize a special political committee to continue their discussions on amendments to the laws related to presidential election, local election, central election management, and the Agency for National Security Planning.

With regard to the thorny issue of the local elections, opposition parties were understood to have withdrawn their demand to hold the local election this year when they agreed to refer the question to the special political committee, sources said.

The opposition parties had been insisting on holding the elections of provincial governors, large city mayors and heads of other local governing bodies this year to help hold a cleaner and fairer presidential election.

It was this local election issue that had been blocking the way for the normalization the National Assembly since the opposition parties refused to cooperate with the DLP for parliamentary operation in a protest against the government's unilateral decision to postpone them beyond 1992.

They have agreed to amend the law for the Agency for National Security Planning to insure the strict neutrality of the intelligence agency in domestic politics.

Moreover, the leaders decided to ask the nation's press and television and radio stations to maintain their "neutrality" and disseminate "fair and objective" reports. In this connection, they urged an early resolution of a labor dispute at Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC).

The Democratic Party strongly demand that one of the two local elections be held this year but the leaders failed to reach any conclusion because of an opposition from the DLP.

The two opposition parties also demanded the release of Han Chun- su, former chief of Yongi County, South Chungchong Province, who was arrested after he had exposed the government's involvement in the March 24 general election in his county. The DLP refused to accept the demand.

National Assembly Ready To Resume Session

SK2909075992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0703 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 29 (YONHAP)—The National Assembly, crippled by a prolonged dispute between the governing and opposition parties over local elections and other issues, is expected to be get back on track within this week.

Floor leaders of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], the Democratic Party [DP] and the Unification National Party [officially renamed United People's Party] met Tuesday to discuss ways to restore to normal the nation's single-house legislature, which has failed to conduct parliamentary business since it was opened in late June.

At Tuesday's meeting, the main opposition Democratic Party withdrew its demand and accepted the ruling party's plans to appoint chairmen of the 17 standing committees in proportion to the number of representatives each party holds.

The DLP wants 10 chairmanships while letting the Democratic Party have five and the Unification National Party two.

The DP had demanded that the proportion be 9-6-2. The opposition party, instead, worked out an agreement with the ruling party to get the chairmanship of one of the three special—budget and accounts, unification policy and Taejon Expo '93—committees.

With the agreement, the National Assembly will resume its regular session on Wednesday at the earliest, or at least within the week. Following the selection of standing committee chairmen, it will form a special political committee to deal with amendments to the presidential election law, local elections and campaign fundraising.

The assembly will also have to undertake inspection of central and local government agencies, interpellation, budget deliberation and speeches of leaders of the three parties.

But even if the assembly resumes its session, operation is expected to be rocky as three parties have considerable gaps with regard to the dates for inspection of central and local government agencies, sources say.

Kim Yong-sam Interviewed on Cabinet, Elections

SK2909114392 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 23 Sep 92 pp 3, 4

[Interview with Kim Yong-sam, president of the Democratic Liberal Party and candidate for the upcoming

ROK presidential elections, by a team of CHUNGANG ILBO reporters on 18 September at the Daehan Life Insurance Building]

[Excerpts] [CHUNGANG ILBO] Are you now encountering a difficult situation following President No Tae-u's announcement to leave the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] to form a neutral cabinet? It was learned that when rumors that President No would leave the DLP first circulated, his advisers were very astonished.

[Kim Yong-sam] Difficulties? There are no difficulties. President No made a truly important decision. His announcement matches the 29 June declaration in importance. President No said that he would feel uncomfortable if he remained in the DLP after stating that he would help form a neutral caretaker cabinet for fair elections. [passage omitted]

[CHUNGANG ILBO] Are you confident that you can win in the presidential elections without the help of the president and the government?

[Kim] Take a look at the former Yongi County chief Han Chun-su incident. Times have changed. One can no longer make improper use of government power. Even if defeated in the elections, I will carry out clean elections. Of course the DLP should unite. [sentence as published]

[CHUNGANG ILBO] How is the neutral caretaker cabinet to be formed? The final decision will have to be made by President No.

[Kim] I will listen to views from all social strata as well as all opposition parties. President No has asked me to take full charge of this task and I will have to work diligently. The neutral caretaker cabinet will be formed sometime in early October.

[CHUNGANG ILBO] How much change will there be in the current cabinet?

[Kim] Shuffling just three or four cabinet members will not be sufficient to make an impression on the people, so I expect that a number of positions, including that of prime minister, will undergo reshuffling. President No and I have come to agreement regarding this matter and we agree on bold and extensive reshuffling. [passage omitted]

[CHUNGANG ILBO] Frankly speaking, how do you assess the five years of President No's term of office?

[Kim] President No made great contributions to our country's democracy. He made definitive decisions in the 29 June declaration and again in leaving the DLP. Furthermore, progress has been made in the northern policy and South-North dialogues. He had to struggle at first because of the weak ruling party-strong opposition parties situation. In other words he fastened the first button incorrectly. The first year of any presidency is very important. Although I am not presently in a situation to say, if elected president, I will make some resolute decisions to cure the Korean disease. [passage omitted]

[CHUNGANG ILBO] What are the symptoms of the Korean disease? Do you have confidence that you can cure it? Opposition parties criticize you by saying that you are the cause of the Korean disease.

[Kim] [passage omitted] There is no special remedy. I will legitimately carry out resolute reform. I will push ahead unwaveringly. [passage omitted]

[CHUNGANG ILBO] How do you plan to solve the regional sentiment problem?

[Kim] This is truly the Korean disease. I was keenly aware of it during my 1987 campaign for presidency in Kwangju. I think it will be good if the presidential candidates get together to discuss this matter. If I gain power I will solve this problem through the channel of greater national harmony. [passage omitted]

[CHUNGANG ILBO] How will you deal with persons who visited North Korea such as Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and Miss Yim Su-kyong?

[Kim] Equal consideration of changes in South-North relations and the principle of equity will determine that. It is not yet time for me to talk about this issue. [passage omitted]

[CHUNGANG ILBO] How are your studies of economics progressing? As a layman in this field, do you think that studying now will be of help to you? How do you plan to deal with the economic situation?

[Kim] The most important task is price stabilization. The adverse balance of international payments should be reduced as soon as possible and competitiveness in the manufacturing industry should be fostered. Reducing economic restrictions is another important task. The small government which I refer to does not mean reducing the number of civil servants. It entails forming a less-obtrusive government. It is unreasonable to have to prepare 300 kinds of documents and take three years to build a factory. Change is warranted in the economic field also. [passage omitted]

[CHUNGANG ILBO] What is your position on reunification?

[Kim] Reunification should by no means be hastened. This is not a sentimental issue nor is it a fight to justify one another's position. First, North Korea should give up the development of nuclear weapons and then allow dispersed families to unite. If this is achieved, we will in our own way help carry out North Korea's economic development and reform.

[CHUNGANG ILBO] Now, this is a straightforward question. Are you confident that you can win in the upcoming presidential elections?

[Kim] Yes. I have, in my own right, been conducting observations and have found the gap between the other candidates and myself widening. People say that I practice "sense politics" [kamui chongchi]. I have a feeling that good results will be achieved. [passage omitted]

Security Agency To Remain Politically Neutral

SK2709141192 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 25 Sep 92 p 1

[Text] On 23 September the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] held a joint meeting (a meeting of heads of NSP divisions) of the heads of the national municipal and provincial chapters and key NSP officials. It resolved not to carry out political coordinating [chongchijokchojong] work and to devote itself to collecting information.

The meeting was held to assure the people that the NSP will suspend its intervention in major political issues while presiding over or participating in the so-called "countermeasure meetings of the agencies concerned" of various levels of central and local governments. This draws public attention since it has a bearing on the fairness of the upcoming presidential election.

While ministries and offices of the central government and military circles are seeking readjustment of their status after President No Tae-u announced he was leaving the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and would form a neutral cabinet for the presidential election, the NSP, which has been deeply involved in politics, took the initiative of declaring "political neutrality" and "severing ties with politics." The NSP meeting is likely to have an impact on government agencies at various levels.

After explaining about President No Tae-u's true intention behind severing ties with the DLP and his decision to remain as president without political party membership in order to ensure strictly neutral management of the upcoming presidential election, NSP Director Yi Sang-yon instructed NSP officials not to intervene in politics and to maintain strict neutrality.

A high-ranking NSP official conceded: "It is true that the NSP has performed political coordination whenever it was deemed necessary." He said: "However, the NSP will not engage in politically-oriented activities, including the meetings of the agencies concerned and party-government countermeasure meetings."

This NSP official said: "With the country divided, information gathering is inevitable." He continued: "We believe that political circles and the people will understand the nature of the work the NSP must carry out."

He added that the director and all other NSP management officials will take the initiative of making sure that the information gathering activities which are necessary are not inadvertently misunderstood as intervening in politics and see to it that their subordinates do likewise.

Another high-ranking NSP official concerned said: "In addition to gathering information on national security, it is about time that the NSP also gather various kinds of information for the country's development, that is, information activities for the development of industry, including science and technology. He then added that the NSP established and is operating the "21st Century Development Committee" within the NSP to help carry out this work.

DP Seeks Limit on Agency's Operations

SK2609104292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0526 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 26 (YONHAP)—The Democratic Party [DP] is to seek an amendment to the law on the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) in order to prohibit the agency from meddling in politics.

Senior party members decided Saturday to submit a bill to the National Assembly to limit the agency's operations to collecting foreign and economic information and to rename it the "Foreign Intelligence Agency."

The decision came a day after the agency resolved not to interfere in domestic politics and to stay politically neutral.

Nation Posts Early Balance of Payments Surplus

SK3009063992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0300 GMT 30 Sep 92

["News analysis" by Pak Se-chin: "Government Gets Credit for August Current Account Surplus"]

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—August's international balance of payments surplus, the first non-December surplus since September 1990, was the fruit of the government's slow-growth economic policy.

It is premature to expect the surplus to continue through the rest of the year, but it is clear that exports are growing steadily and imports are shrinking due to the slow-growth policy.

During the first eight months of the year, the once-negligible invisible trade balance has increased its share of the international balance of payments and its deficit has widened.

The Bank of Korea said Wednesday that the August current account surplus was 94.5 million U.S. dollars. The balance is in the black every December due to a surge of exports as business clear their accounts, but this was the first surplus in another month since September 1990. The surplus was 450 million dollars in December 1991 and 480 million dollars in 1990.

Exports grew 36.2 percent in 1987 from a year earlier, 28.4 percent in 1988, 2.8 percent in 1989, 4.2 percent in 1990 and 10.5 percent in 1991. The rise was 9 percent in January-August.

Imports soared 29.9 percent in 1987, 26.3 percent in 1988, 18.6 percent in 1989, 13.6 percent in 1990 and 16.7 percent last year. The rate was 2.4 percent for January-August.

The trade deficit shrank 2.96 billion dollars from 1991 to 3.36 billion dollars in January-August but the invisible trade deficit rose 840 million dollars to 1.69 billion dollars.

The poor invisible trade performance of the first eight months slowed improvement of the international balance of payments.

Rents for foreign airplanes and vessels, repatriation of profits by foreign companies and the worsening tourism balance are the main culprits in the widening invisible trade deficit.

Exports of heavy and chemical industrial products rose 14.2 percent in January-August, accounting for 59.1 percent of the total exports, and that of light industrial goods registered a paltry 1.3- percent growth.

Imports of raw materials dropped 0.4 percent from a year earlier and purchases of capital and consumption goods rose 4.9 percent and 8.5 percent, respectively.

Raw material imports jumped 25.4 percent in January-August last year while capital and consumption imports soared 21.5 percent and 22.1 percent.

Oil import growth dropped to 21.8 percent during the first eight months from 50.7 percent in the same period last year and steel imports plummeted to 16.8-percent growth, compared with 49.9 percent last year.

Exports to Southeast Asia, Central and South America, and Mideast nations surpassed imports from the regions, but South Korea imported more than it exported in trade with the United States, Japan and Europe.

Arrivals of letters of credit swelled 6.1 percent as of Sept. 26 from a year earlier, but issuance of import permits dropped 13 percent, signalling that exports will lead imports for some time.

The central bank projects the current account deficit for this year at around 5.8 billion dollars, down from 8.7 billion dollars last year.

Cambodia

Khmer Rouge Alleges 'Gross' Cease-Fire Violations

BK3009024292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] According to a report from the Route 12 battlefield, on 2 and 5 September 1992, Mau Phirun, Kompong Cham Province's army commander, dispatched a number of Vietnamese troops to attack resistance forces on the battlefield. In recent months, the Vietnamese and Phnom Penh faction have continued to openly ship troops, ammunition, and cannons to battlefields at Route 12, Pursat, Battambang, Preah Vihear, and so on.

This action is a gross violation of the cease-fire. Therefore, the resistance forces, in particular the forces of Democratic Kampuchea, have to assume the right of self-defense at all times.

'Revolt' Against Vietnamese in Capital Intensifies

BK3009033092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] According to Phnom Penh residents, their revolt against Vietnamese aggressor forces disguised as civilians such as merchants, is intensifying. The residents are terribly furious with the Vietnamese, male and female alike, who overwhelmingly control the various markets in the capital. Moreover, disguised Vietnamese soldiers also robbed jewelry shops and bazaars, stole cars and motorbikes, and barbarically and cruelly shot their owners. Residents say they are fed up and that they would one day rise up and drive the Vietnamese aggressors out of Phnom Penh.

Responding to the situation, the puppet leaders and the Vietnamese dispatched a growing number of their commandos from Prey Veng and Svay Rieng Provinces to Phnom Penh. The troops, in collaboration with A-3 policemen, are now looking to arrest those opposing the Vietnamese in the city. However, the people have said that despite their vigorous attempt to quell the uprising, the puppet leaders and Vietnamese cannot hold back the people's outrage. Now, the insurrection against puppet leaders and Vietnamese aggressors has intensified.

Khmer Rouge Urges Committee To Check Vietnamese

BK2609022292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 25 Sep 92

["Open Letter of Monks and Lay People at Tuol Tumpung Monastery in Phnom Penh on How To Deal With the Influx of Illegal Vietnamese Nationals;" date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The influx of illegal Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia is part of the complex Cambodian problem, at present and in the future. Everyone knows that since the Hanoi Vietnamese invaded Cambodia in 1979, 2 million Vietnamese nationals have flowed into Cambodia. This is a great obstacle to a solution to the Cambodian problem. UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] has no measures whatsoever for this issue, which concerns the entire Cambodian people because it is related to the elections and affects Cambodia's sovereignty, particularly the daily annexation and expansion of territory and annexation of the Cambodian people. This is a problem that has to be solved to all factions' satisfaction before the elections are organized.

The best way to solve this problem is:

1. UNTAC has to round up all Vietnamese nationals and put them in UN camps;

2. UNTAC has to set up its own committee, particularly a quadripartite Cambodian committee, to cooperate with UNTAC in checking all Vietnamese nationals to clearly find out who entered Cambodia illegally and who came legally, and to send the illegal entrants back to Vietnam.

Acting this way does not mean violating human rights; rather, it is an issue concerning the violation of Cambodia's sovereignty. This is an issue of the expansion and annexation of Cambodian territory and the Cambodian people and also one of the extermination of the Cambodian race.

When Vietnamese nationals go to other countries, they are gathered in camps and checks are done to determine who is an illegal and who is a legal immigrant. Some are allowed to stay; some are accepted by third countries; and the illegal immigrants are sent back to Vietnam.

UNTAC and the Supreme National Council have the task of raising this issue at an SNC meeting to clearly establish this committee to check Vietnamese nationals and actually set the committee's work in motion before the elections in 1993.

Only if this issue is solved to all factions' satisfaction can the elections be held properly and justly. Otherwise, Cambodia will not be at peace. Dear UNTAC: Do not take this issue lightly; the whole process will become bogged down with no peace.

Sin Song Warns of Khmer Rouge 'Genocide' Threat

BK3009080192 Phnom Penh THE CAMBODIA TIMES in English 21-27 Sep 92 p 6

[Text] The international community and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), and not the government, should be held responsible for the inevitable genocide if the Khmer Rouge comes into power again, warned Internal Security Minister General Sin Song.

It will be recalled that during the Khmer Rouge's so-called "reign of terror," an estimated one million Cambodians were killed from 1975 to the end of 1978 under Pol Pot.

The Khmer Rouge has been making various attempts to win people over to its side, including both the United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC) and Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPLNF) parties.

An earlier report from REUTERS stated there was growing evidence that the Khmer Rouge was switching from military activity to a "hearts and minds" campaign to win over the rural population.

Their efforts apparently include winning both FUNCINPEC and KPNLF over to their side.

"This is merely one of their ploys. Once the elections are over, they will reveal their true colours and oust the winning party, be it FUNCINPEC or KPNLF," Sin Song said.

The Khmer Rouge may help finance FUNCINPEC and KPNLF for its own purposes but surely, HRH [His Royal Highness] Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Son Sann as leaders of the respective parties must have a good idea of what the Khmer Rouge are attempting to do, the general said.

"If either party thinks it can make use of the Khmer Rouge, then they are sadly mistaken," Sin Song pointed out.

The general commented that if either party wins the election, the Khmer Rouge will take this opportunity to overthrow the new goverment.

They will abolish all existing structures and create a new one, he predicted.

Apparently, he continued, the Khmer Rouge think they can achieve this through their military force which stands at approximately 5,000 men.

General Sin Song also mentioned that the Khmer Rouge has sent a circular stating that "the presence of UNTAC is not different from the presence of the Vietnamese."

Khmer Rouge official Tep Khunnal charged that the UN organisation was not capable of carrying out its responsibility of bringing peace to the country.

Excerpts from the circular contains the veiled threat that "UNTAC is not here to help the people of Cambodia but to seize the territory."

The paper then urged the local population to kill UNTAC members by opening fire on their vehicles and aircraft.

The circular also stated that the Khmer Rouge will never obey the peace agreement even if UNTAC head, Yasushi Akashi, uses force on them.

"If Akashi persists in pushing us to the limit, he will suffer the same fate as Gen Loridon," the leaflet claimed.

Brig Gen Michel Loridon, previously UNTAC military second-in-command, was transferred to Germany over a month ago for apparently being outspoken in his opinion about how to handle the Khmer Rouge.

Although official statements stressed that his posting to Germany was merely within the bounds of "a normal rotation, political observers believe it was triggered by his candid remarks on routing the Khmer Rouge.

Loridon was once quoted as saying, "It is possible at some time they (the Khmer Rouge) will try to block the U.N. move by force. If it comes to that, one may lose 200 men and that could include myself, but the Khmer Rouge problem would be solved for good."

But the Khmer Rouge official said recently that they did not call for the resignation of Akashi as earlier reported.

He clarified that the call for Akashi's resignation came from the Canadian-based Committee for the Advancement of Democracy and the Development of Kampuchea which, it was stressed, was not connected to the Khmer Rouge.

"Democratic Kampuchea is not afraid of losing because it has political party association such as through FUNCINPEC. If FUNCINPEC wins, this also means the victory of the Khmer Rouge and they can maintain their own forces," Sin Song concluded.

CPP Warns FUNCINPEC To Be Wary of Khmer Rouge

BK3009083392 Phnom Penh THE CAMBODIA TIMES in English 21-27 Sep 92 p 6

[Text] The United National Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC) party should be wary of the Khmer Rouge as the latter is not to be trusted, wrote HRH Prince Norodom Narethrapong of the Cambodia People's Party (CPP) in a letter to FUNCINPEC leader HRH Prince Norodom Ranariddh recently.

A copy of the letter was obtained by THE CAMBODIA TIMES from a reliable source who declined to be identified.

At present, Narethrapong wrote, the State of Cambodia government was the only factor standing in the way of the Khmer Rouge wresting complete control of the country.

Contrary to the Khmer Rouge's propaganda, the Vietnamese have already completely withdrawn from Cambodia, stated the letter. If government soldiers were not in place, it will not be possible to stem the tide of the Khmer Rouge's influence, the letter continued.

The Khmer Rouge, who get financial assistance from the Chinese, do not want to give up their plan to recapture their former prominence by military means. In his letter, Narethrapong also reminded Ranariddh that the Khmer Rouge is no friend of the royal family. Even during the movement against the Vietnamese, the Khmer Rouge never really favoured the FUNCINPEC party. The

Khmer Rouge at that period of time was only using FUNCINPEC's name and reputation for their activities, Narethrapong pointed out.

If Ranariddh ever needed a reminder of the Khmer Rouge's treachery, he should read their father's book, "The Prisoner of the Khmer Rouge," the CPP official said. According to him, the reality is that when the Khmer Rouge takes control again, all opposition to the party will be imprisoned or killed.

If the country should fall under the Khmer Rouge, there will no longer be any democracy or human rights, wrote Narethrapong.

Narethrapong's warning to Ranariddh comes in the wake of a Democratic Kampuchea (DK) circular distributed late last month claiming that the Khmer Rouge will still maintain victory in the 1993 elections if the FUNCINPEC party wins. The circular, dated August 22, was distributed in Pursat province.

It claimed that a win by the FUNCINPEC also means victory for the DK because "we have an alliance with Prince Norodom Ranariddh and if his party wins during the general elections, this means that the DK party also wins." But the leaflet fell short of saying that the FUNCINPEC was working jointly with the DK.

In the leaflet, the Khmer Rouge issued a call for the dismantling of what they called as the "Vietnamese installed government" and added that they were currently investigating Vietnamese influence on government policies. They also warned that if they found Vietnamese meddling in the running of the government, their secret network would be ready to kill those concerned immediately. They also called on their loyal partisan members to kill UNTAC personnel and shoot their vehicles and aircraft because the UN body was allegedly just a replica of the Vietnamese invasion forces.

"Both of them (UNTAC and the Vietnamese) are the aggressors of the land. UNTAC is not in Cambodia to help the people but merely to seize our land," the leaflet said. To protect the nation the leaflet urged all Cambodians to rise and prevent another such invasion "and to kill them all, until the very last one." It also continued by saying that the Khmer Rouge does not agree with the Paris peace agreement.

The leaflet's inflammatory and very radical language contrasts sharply with recent reports indicating the Khmer Rouge may be ready to make the crucial and long-awaited move to comply with phase two of the peace process by cantoning and disarming their troops.

A UN official said last week there were indications toward this possibility from talks UNTAC has been conducting throughout the country for the first time with the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK). "We have been making contacts that we just didn't have before. Some (NADK groups) are saying that they will be the first to canton," the UN official, who requested anonymity, said.

Sihanouk's Presidency Called 'Crucial'

BK3009074792 Phnom Penh THE CAMBODIA TIMES in English 21-27 Sep 92 pp 1, 2

[Report on interview with Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, deputy prime minister, by THE CAMBODIA TIMES—place, date not given]

[Text] Phnom Penh—The State of Cambodia [SOC] government and its political arm, the Cambodia People's Party (CPP), have reiterated their earlier call to have HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk elected as president before the legislative elections next year to ensure stability in the country.

Such is the urgency for this presidential election, according to a top-ranked government, official, that the SOC and CPP are prepared to finance the democratic exereise on their own.

Deputy Prime Minister Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, in an exclusive interview with THE CAMBODIA TIMES, said Sihanouk's election to the presidency "is very crucial and important" for the present and future stability of Cambodia.

Chakkrapong warned that the country could be thrown into serious political instability if none of the four parties get a majority of the votes in next year's planned elections.

"Consider this scenario. If after the general elections no party has a majority, who goes to govern Cambodia?" the deputy prime minister asked.

He said that since the Supreme National Council (SNC), the overall supervisory body that is headed by Sihanouk where all the four factions are represented, will be dissolved after the general elections, there might be a "vacuum of power and administrative structure."

After the dissolution of the SNC, Chakkrapong said the country would need someone to govern it and to act as point of reference.

"Nobody can do that. Only Prince Sihanouk can do that," he said.

As early as the May 26, 1992 meeting of the SNC, the question of holding presidential elections during the transitional period had already been raised.

The Paris peace agreement does not provide for a presidential election.

Citing this, UNTAC deputy special representative Behrooz Sadry said at the SNC meeting that the four factions should begin drafting a new consitution for the presidential election.

During this same meeting, the United National Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC) threw its support behind the SOC/CPP proposal.

FUNCIPEC president Prince Norodom Ranariddh declared that in his capacity as head of the party, "I take the liberty of proposing that the head of state be elected, if not before legislative elections, at least on the same day as the latter."

He said this was justifiable by the fact "that Cambodia must be endowed at the same time with a consistuent assembly [as published] and a president of Cambodia who will promulgate the constitution adopted by the assembly."

Chakkrapong said that so far, UNTAC has been "quiet" on this issue.

Ranariddh stressed that as the head of state constitutes a political institution fundamental to the state, "it is indispensable that his election takes place in conformity with legal and incontestable procedures" and that for these reasons, it was the role of UNTAC to elaborate these procedures.

Chakkrapong emphasised that the proposal need not be approved by the SNC "because it is outside the (Paris) agreements." He added that since it was not mentioned in the peace accords, it did not constitute a contradiction to the said accords.

"The members of the SNC have been talking that they want to increase the powers of Prince Sihanouk. If they are sincere, then why don't they accept the proposal of the SOC and the CPP?" he pointed out.

Chakkrapong explained that having Sihanouk elected as president after the general elections, as has been suggested by Kampuchea People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) head Mr Son Sann, could be "very dangerous."

He recalled that on March 18,1970, "the so-called parliament elected my father head of state and after the coup d'etat, they couldn't take off."

The coup was staged by pro-US Premier Lon Nol, who successfully wrested power from the Sihanouk government. Three years later, the country was plunged into civil war as fighting erupted between the US backed Khmer Republic and the North Vietnam-supported Khmer Rouge. By 1975, the country fell under the Khmer Rouge's "reign of terror" that claimed the lives of an estimated one million Cambodians.

We cannot have another mistake like March 18,1970, Chakkrapong stressed.

He also pointed out that if parliament elects Sihanouk, the latter would have less powers than if he were elected by the people.

At any time, he said Sihanouk can be stripped of his powers by parliament, which would not be the case if he were installed by direct popular election.

Moreover, Chakkrapong said that even if a parliament is formed after next year's elections, the country would need a president or head of state to approve or sign parliamentary acts.

It is like the saying, the father cannot be born after the child. The parliament is the child and the father is the president. The president must approve the acts of parliament. Who goes to sign the acts (of parliament) if you do not have a president or head of state?"

This echoed Ranariddh's argument that it is the head of state that is entitled to appoint the prime minister. "Without a head of state, which institution will promulgate the constitution adopted by the constituent assembly?" the FUNCINPEC head asked.

Chakkrapong revealed that in meetings conducted by the government in many of the provinces throughout the country, the overwhelming call of the people has been for the election of Sihanouk as president.

"If the other parties say they serve the interest of Cambodia, then they must listen to the voice of the people," he said.

According to him, the government was prepared to finance a presidential election if UNTAC "has any problem with the financial aspects of it."

"If UNTAC say they have no money, we can (finance it). The SOC and CPP control 90

of the population and 85

of the territory. We have more than enough to organise a democratic election, he confidently stated.

Asked whether it would be possible to organise such an election given the time constraints (the general elections are planned to be held in April or May next year), Chakkrapong said it can be done.

"Technically, it is very easy because it would involve only one or two or three persons, unlike the general elections where there would be thousands of candidates," he explained.

Queried as to whether the SOC/CPP were prepared to go it alone without the support of the other two factions, Chakkrapong, without a moment's hesitation, said "yes."

Ideally, he continued that the decision to hold a presidential election should be made by all the parties.

"We hope to have the cooperation and support (of the other parties) and we continue to open our doors. We would like to have the other three parties join us, not only the three factions but all the other parties."

"But," he said, "if they don't, it's up to them, but they must be condemned by the people."

The election, he argued, "is in the interest of the people, not the SOC and the three factions. Now the people are asking already (for such an election) and the party who does not do that must be condemned by the people."

The deputy prime minister said that the SOC/CPP proposal envisions having Sihanouk serve a term of four to five years as president but he added that the actual tenure would have to be decided by parliament once it is convened next year.

Indonesia

Suharto on Restructuring UNSC Membership

BK2909153792 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1220 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Remarks by President Suharto aboard a Garuda Indonesia plane on his return from Tokyo on 29 September—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear journalists. Peace be upon you! Obviously, my visits to New York and Japan were aimed at serving national interests, primarily those relating to our development plan as well as serving the interests of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM]. The NAM summit has just ended, and Indonesia was assigned to chair the movement for the next three years. [passage omitted]

The NAM with Indonesia as its chairman must immediately establish a high-level group of experts to recommend that the United Nations as the world's highest body be restructured to make it more effective and democratic. For this purpose, the high-level group should cooperate with the secretary general and the NAM caucus in the Security Council made up of NAM members sitting in the UN Security Council. In addition, developing nations should cooperate among themselves in restructuring the United Nations. You know that the NAM now has 108 members. The Group of 77 includes about 22 developing countries which are not NAM members. Thus, there are 130 South countries sitting in the United Nations General Assembly. If I am not mistaken, there are about 179 UN members. Yugoslavia has been temporarily expelled from the body and is required to apply for new membership. Thus, the 130 countries represent over two-thirds of the UN membership. In the event of voting, they would be formidable. However, any decision could be vetoed by countries having the veto rights. Thus, the restructuring of the United Nations should not only cover its apparatuses such as the secretary general or agencies under its authority but also the Security Council itself. We must be courageous enough to set reasonable criteria for the council in line with the current changes.

As you know, the Security Council has 15 members—five permanent members and 10 nonpermanent members. The permanent members have the veto rights. This arrangement was made after World War II ended. The United States, France, Britain, Russia, and China as victors of the war have dominated the Security Council through their veto rights. The present situation is different from that of 47 years ago. The losers were not involved in the United Nations when it was born. But, the victors are now losing out to the losers in terms of economic development. Look at Japan and Germany! They are now economically superior to the victors. Thus, it is now time that the permanent membership be reviewed. There should not be only five permanent members. At least two more members should be added. Japan and Germany as losers of World War II have the potential and responsibility to take part in making a success of world development. If this is the case, the Security Council with seven permanent members would be dominated by developed countries. This would not be fair. Because of this, another criterion must be found to enable developing nations to sit as permanent members of the Security Council. What is the criterion then? We take into account the potentials of a nation in developing itself. The population could simultaneously contribute to and hamper a development program. Thus, a country with a big population has both positive and negative potential. Perhaps, a country with a population of over 175 million should be allowed to become a permanent members. If this is the criterion, only two countries, India and Indonesia, would be admitted. Indonesia and India have 180 million and nearly 800 million respectively. Still, this would be unfair. No African or Latin American countries would be admitted as none of them has a population over 175 million. Accordingly, the most populous African and Latin American countries should also be allowed to become permament members of the Security Council. Thus, there could be 11 permament members—five present members, two World War II losers, two Asian countries whose respective populations exceed 175 million, and the two most populous African and Latin American countries respectively. The PRC is already a permanent member.

Now about the veto rights. I think it would be difficult to revoke the veto rights. Should the new permanent members be given the veto rights? This would be very difficult. Thus, it would be impossible to revoke the rights. Only the five countries will continue to have the veto rights. To be fair and democratic, the United Nations must regulate the use of the veto rights. They can use their vetoes, but there must be rights to counter the veto power. This means that a veto can be countered by two vetoes. Two vetoes can be countered by four vetoes and so on. This would be one of the ways to ensure that the veto rights are used properly. [passage omitted]

Armed Forces Renominate Suharto for President

BK2909094292 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Excerpts] General Try Sutrisno, commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia [ABRI], gave

a directive to ABRI parliamentary appointees at the House of Representatives in Jakarta this morning. On the occasion, Gen. Try Sutrisno announced the ABRI's decision to renominate Retired Gen. Suharto as a candidate for the presidency for the 1993-98 term.

[Begin Sutrisno recording] All members of the House of Representatives and the People's Consultative Assembly will be officially installed the day after tomorrow. [passage omitted]

The ABRI holds that efforts by the Indonesian people to develop the nation to be on par with developed nations will be primarily determined by the quality of the national leadership. Thus, the ABRI has decided to renominate Retired Gen. Suharto as a candidate for the presidency for the 1993-98 term. This is a final guideline for all of us before the official installation the day after tomorrow. With clear heart and calm mind, let us develop a common perception about our future tasks. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Laos

Eight Officials Sentenced for Corruption

BK2609104192 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Summary] The Criminal Court of the Supreme People's Court of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on 24 September 1992 sentenced Loui Sisoulat, former director of the Lao Fuel Oil Company, and seven of his colleagues to various terms of imprisonment ranging from 20 to 10 years, on a charge of embezzlement of state property worth a total of 8,809,585,195 kip.

The Criminal Court ruled that from 1988 to 1991 the eight suspects were engaged in a large number of illegal and corrupt practices involving "violations of the laws on state revenue, embezzlement of state property, and falsification of government documents."

Their mischievous activities included selling 47,608 metric tons of oil in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam without seeking any approval from either the Lao Government or the SRV Government and hoarding and delaying deliveries of 3,363 metric tons of oil to the Lao People's Army for 25 months from 1988-1990 during the period of the Lao-Thai border conflict at Na Bonoi canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province. Despite having been relieved of duty in early 1990, Loui acted on behalf of his colleagues in signing a memorandum with an oil company in Singapore in October 1991 and later signing a letter of intention with the same company in Vientiane in September 1991. On both occasions, he did it without seeking government approval.

The Criminal Court therefore sentenced all the eight wrong-doers to various terms of imprisonment, as follows: Loui Sisoulat, 20 years; Douangta Sivongsa, 16 years; Sisouvan Sinavong, 15 years; Khamfoi Chanthalalai, 13; Phoumi Pansomdet, 13 years; Viang Dalavong, 12 years; Phomdet Kesonsouk, 11 years; and Bounkhong Somasai, 10 years. The court ruling also stated that all the suspects must pay back the total amount of 8,809,585,195 kip to the state and pay all the court fees. This verdict was effective as of 24 September 1992.

Party Control Board Views Trial

BK2809102892 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Vientiane, September 28 (KPL)—The Control Board of the party Central Committee, on September 26 morning organised here a press conference to disclose the effort and stance of the party and government of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] on opposition to and prevention of [words garbled] board, told the press conference that the trial of a big corruption case involving a group of the state fuel company's officials on September 24, 1992 was fair. He said this was aimed at smashing the design of the enemy and bad elements using the corruption as their most dangerous weapon.

Mr. Siaosavan also elaborated the essence of the party and government's policy with regard to the wrong actions by the group of officials in the State Fuel Company who committed serious corruption, stressing that the trial was fair to them.

He then spoke of the immediate task of different ministries and services that heve to contribute to preventing corruption and to strengthen their apparatus.

Three Jailed in Khammouane

BK2609042492 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 22 Sep 92

[Text] In early September, the people's court of Khammouane Province meted out punishment against three persons of the provincial electricity enterprise on a charge of embezzlement of 1,716,780 kip of budget funds collected from electricity consumers in the province. The court sentenced each of the three suspects to one year in prison. They were Mr. Lian Thong, 34; Mr. Bounta, 32; and Mr. Oudom, who were attached to the electricity company of Khammouane Province.

Assembly Election Resolution Studied in Provinces

BK2809151192 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] To date, popularization of the resolution adopted by the party Central Committee Political Bureau on election to the Third National Assembly, as well as many important documents involved with the preparations for the election, which will be held in the future, has been extensively carried out in many ministries, departments, bureaus, and departments at the center and in many localities throughout the country.

The popularization of this resolution and preparations to hold the election have been undertaken since August by

many ministries, departments, and localities in the provinces of Luang Namtha, Houa Phan, Xieng Khouang, Sayaboury, Luang Prabang, Bokeo, Bolikhamsai, Vientiane, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Champassak, Saravane, Attopeu, and Sekong and Vientiane Municipality.

At present, cadres and people in some localities in these provinces have already completed study of the said documents in the initial stage. Efforts are also being speedily made to educate the multiethnic Lao people to profoundly understand the objectives of the election of members of the Third National Assembly. The various documents relating to the election are those involved with the rights and obligations of the Lao people in building and developing the popular democratic regime, the law on election of National Assembly members, the conditions for and criteria of those persons standing for the election, and the regulations and principles of casting votes.

UK Sponsors 2-Week Antinarcotics Seminar

BK2609123?92 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Vientiane, September 26 (KPL)—The antinarcotics training course for some 20 Lao Customs and Police officers sponsored by the British Government wound up at the Asian Pavilion Hotel here.

The two week course run by a team of the overseas training branch of H.M. Customs and Excise dealt with both theory and practice with regard to the international trend of drug trafficking, drug production, methods of hiding and movement of illicit drugs, search for drug, information gathering and intelligence works.

Addressing the closing ceremony, Mr. Andrew George, representing the British Embassy, congratulated the inputs of both the trainers and trainees and organizations concerned such as the National Commission for Drug Control and Prevention, the Lao Customs and Excise and Police. The fact that this training course, the first of its kind, could be held, said he, was an indication that the Lao Government had determined to stamp out the drug problem, considered as an international plague.

Speaking on behalf of the National Commission for Drug Control and Prevention, Mr. Namsai Souvannavong, deputy head of the Department of Customs and Excise, under the Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Finance, thanked the British Government and the trainers from the British Customs for having shared with the participants experience and knowledge in fighting drug trafficking.

The participants of the course came from various provinces, particularly from those bordering with Thailand, Myanmar, China, and Vietnam. The course lasted two weeks.

Phoun Sipaseut Departs for UN General Assembly

BK2609015692 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, left Vientiane yesterday afternoon to attend the 47th UN General Assembly for 1992 in New York. During his participation in the 47th UN General Assembly, Phoun Sipaseut will deliver a speech to explain and express the views of the Lao Government on the more than 100 world issues on the assembly's agenda.

Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and minister of economy, planning, and finance; Phao Bounnaphon, minister and head of the Prime Minister's Office; and a number of high-ranking authorities concerned were on hand at Wattai airport to see Phoun Sipaseut off.

Philippines

Subversion Charges Against Sison Dropped

HK2909151992 Quezon City ABC-DWET Channel 5 in English 1300 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] The Justice Department is dropping subversion charges filed against Jose Maria Sison.

Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon said this latest move will allow Joma [Jose Maria] Sison, exiled founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP], to return to the country and negotiate for peace.

To hasten efforts towards national unity, Drilon has directed the Bureau of Corrections to prepare the release papers of all Bilibid [National Penitentiary] prisoners convicted of subversion because they were members of the CPP.

Military Involvement in Kidnappings Confirmed

HK2909124592 Quezon City ABC-DWET Channel 5 in Tagalog 1000 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Brigadier General Alfredo Filler, chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] Intelligence Group, has admitted that leaders and protectors of big kidnap-for-ransom syndicates have been confirmed to belong to military and police ranks.

Earlier today, integrated intelligence forces of the AFP and the Philippine National Police [PNP] met at Camp Crame to discuss ways of helping the Presidential Anticrime Commission's campaign against kidnap syndicates. Here is the complete report from Arlene dela Cruz:

[Begin recording] [Dela Cruz] Before the week ends, some leaders of big kidnapping syndicates will fall into the hands of the military intelligence team. Intelligence chief, Brigadier General Alfredo Filler, gave this assurance after admitting some kidnap gang leaders and protectors belong to the PNP and the AFP.

[Filler, in English] I think much sooner than that, maybe in a day or two, we will have results for you.

[Dela Cruz] Filler clarified that no active senior military or police officer is included in the group they are pursuing. Some of those still in active service who are involved in the kidnapping syndicate are junior officers, enlisted personnel, ordinary police, and dismissed and AWOL officers of the PNP and the AFP.

[Filler, in English] We don't think there are senior officers involved, okay. We are not discounting the possibility though. We are looking into it, but right now I don't think there are very senior AFP officers involved in such criminal cases.

[Dela Cruz] Some police officers shall be assigned to the military in order to make actual arrests on syndicate members.

Still top of the AFP and PNP hitlist are the Red Scorpion Group and the Omar Gang, reportedly the most active kidnap rings in Metro Manila. [end recording]

NPA Unit Offers To Help Fight Kidnap Gangs

HK2909122192 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] The New People's Army [NPA] will remobilize its liquidation squad, the Sparrow Unit [Alex Boncayao Brigade], against kidnap-for-ransom syndicates operating within Metro Manila. This was announced by Gregorio Rosal, alias Comrade Roger, commander of the NPA's Melito Glor Command, who said that his group is now discussing how the Alex Boncayao Brigade can assist the Presidential Anticrime Commission in its battle against the country's kidnap-for-ransom syndicates.

Comrade Roger, in an interview with DZRH, said that his colleagues are now carefully studying the possibility of using the Sparrow Unit against military men and policemen who are involved in this heinous crime.

[Begin Rosal recording] We will convey all these concerns to the Alex Boncayao Brigade; however, I think it will be better if we ask the Philippine National Police [PNP] and the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] about this matter, since it was reported this morning that 90 percent of all kidnappers are active members of the AFP and PNP. All the same, I will consult my colleagues on what we can do about this matter. [end recording]

Ramos Amnesty Plan Excludes Rightist Rebels

HK3009062092 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 30 Sep 92 p 1

[Text] President Ramos' amnesty program does not cover military rebels, the Senate learned yesterday. Defense and justice officials testified before a joint hearing of the Senate committees on peace and unification and defense that the military rebels were excluded from the coverage of the amnesty program when it was first promulgated under former President Corazon Aquino's Executive Order [EO] 350.

EO 350, approved shortly after peace talks with communist rebels failed in 1987, provided the framework for an amnesty program for communist rebels and Muslim secessionists. It has not been revised to include military rebels, the officials said.

As this developed, sources told the INQUIRER 20 more detained putschists will soon be granted temporary liberty as part of government efforts to lure rebel forces to return to the fold of law.

Also yesterday, Army Lt. Col. Rafael Galvez and 1Lt. Orlando Caballegan, along with five other soldiers, were freed from detention at Fort Bonifacio.

Their release brought to 25 the number of rightist detainees freed by the Ramos administration.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Lisandro Abadia, meanwhile, said none of the rebel groups—communist insurgents, military rebels and Muslim secessionists—was "in a position to overthrow the Ramos administration or even challenge its capability to thwart any destabilization attempts."

Abadia said military rebels, in particular, "could no longer claim any significant following within the Armed Forces simply because their followers have now realized the futility of their cause."

At the Senate, assistant state counsel Teresita de Guia told the two committees a revised version of EO 350 to include military rebels in the amnesty program was drafted but was never approved by Ms. Aquino.

Defense Undersecretary Fernando Campos said there was no other attempt to update EO 350 to allow military rebels to participate in the amnesty plan.

The testimonies, according to peace and unification committee chairman Sen. Wigberto Tanada, contradicted a statement made by Rep. Eduardo Ermita that amendments were made to EO 350 to include military rebels in the amnesty program.

Tanada quoted Ermita, Ms. Aquino's security adviser, as saying the former President issued memorandum Circular 105 to include military rebels in her amnesty program.

But De Guia said while the memorandum listed the procedures to be followed by the rebels on how to avail themselves of the amnesty program, it did not amend EO 350 to cover military rebels.

She said even Mr. Ramos' issuance of Proclamations 10 and 10-A declaring the government's policy of offering amnesty to all rebel forces did not amend EO 350, which was the basis for the amnesty programs of the previous and incumbent administrations.

"This is an incredible situation," said Sen. Blas Ople, a member of the committee on peace and unification.

Tanada said the revelation would force the two Senate committees to study three possible alternatives.

He said Congress could ignore the loophole and immediately concur with the program, return the program to Malacanang for revisions, or concur with the program with proposed amendments.

The revelation also put to question the recent release of the military rebels, but Sen. Raul Roco said the release was made on the basis of an administrative order issued by Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon allowing the rebel soldiers to post bail.

Sources close to National Unification Commission Chairman Haydee Yorac said most of the 20 mutinous rebels who will be released soon are enlisted personnel who were found least culpable in the series of coup attempts against the Aquino administration. Their names were not disclosed.

Freed yesterday, aside from Galvez and Caballegan, were Army Staff Sergeants Domino Cuenco, Augusto Burbe, Lepoldo Juni, Berlin Mabalot and Air Force Sgt. Benjamin Asuncion. They were all implicated in the bloody December 1989 putsch.

Galvez, along with Army Capt. Danilo Lim and Maj. Abraham Purugganan, led some 400 Scout Rangers who occupied high-rise buildings in Makati at the height of the 1989 coup attempt.

NDF Says Communists To Continue Armed Struggle

HK2909123092 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] The Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] will continue its armed struggle versus the government in spite of the legalization of the Communist Party and the repeal of the antisubversion law. The statement was made by the National Democratic Front [NDF].

The NDF said the repeal of the law outlawing communism aims to weaken the armed branch of the CPP-NDF so that the Ramos administration will succeed in its psychological warfare against the communist rebels.

The NDF stressed the steps, including the government's peace talks offer, are not valid until all political prisoners in the country are released and other existing national security laws have been repealed.

NUC Leader Yorac on Ocampo's 'Credibility'

HK3009041392 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] National Unification Commission [NUC] Chairperson Haydee Yorac believes that Satur Ocampo is still in touch with communist leaders who are detained or are in the mountains. In an interview, Yorac said this is the reason she believes Ocampo has credibility in saying that Jose Maria Sison and Luis Jalandoni should be the representatives of the National Democratic Front in the formal peace negotiations. Earlier, Ocampo said that although he was detained for a long time in military camps, he remains in contact with the underground movement.

Mountain Province Governor Favors Local Talks

HK2909144692 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Mountain Province Governor Maximo Dalog favors local and informal talks with New People's Army [NPA] members operating in the area in an effort to stop armed confrontation through peaceful means.

Dalog said that local negotiations with terrorist rebels actually started through the National Reconciliation and Development Program [NRDP], which was implemented by the last provincial administration with the help of some government agencies, particularly the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

In the implementation of the NRDP, the Cordillera Regional Office for Northern Cultural Communities actively assisted the negotiations with the rebels, which resulted in the surrender of several high ranking NPA officials from Central Cordillera.

Governor Dalog said the measure responds to President Fidel V. Ramos' national call for amnesty and reconciliation, which resulted in the formation of the National Unification Commission [NUC], headed by Commissioner Haydee Yorac.

Dalog asserted that whatever agreements materialize between the NUC and other rebel groups on the national level will be followed by local rebels, particularly the Communist Party of the Philippines-National Democratic Front-NPA. Dalog believes, however, that informal talks with local rebels will have more promising results toward ending violence in the area, especially since the negotiators will consist of local officials and leaders from various government agencies and nongovernmental organizations.

Conservative Trade Union Views Ramos' Progress

HK3009051392 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 30 Sep 92 p 12

[Text] President Ramos is doing a better job than former President Corazon Aquino, but Government has not really made substantial progress towards improving the country's socio-economic and political condition, the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) yesterday said.

In its evaluation of Mr. Ramos's first 100 days in office, the conservative trade federation said "guarded optimism is how to best describe labor's hopes on the new government," even as it "reiterates its position of critical collaboration with the new government."

Compared with his predecessor, Mr. Ramos, the TUCP said, "is more experienced and has enough understanding of the use of power and how it should be applied in real politics.... This is very important as he begins to go about with his programs to reform and restructure the economy."

On the peace and order front, the TUCP gave Government high marks for the repeal of the Anti-Subversion Law and the release of top rightist and leftist rebels. This, they said "gave the Administration the moral high ground in its search for lasting solutions to the communist and rightist threat."

However, "Government has to offer concrete and substantial programs to attract rank and file members of the two movements to lay down their arms," the TUCP said.

"Little progress" was the verdict on the effort versus crimes such as kidnapping, drug trafficking and illegal gambling. Neither was the effort against the participation of law enforcement personnel in these crimes given high marks.

"Unless the level of investors' confidence on their safety is restored, unemployment will remain very much a serious problem," the TUCP declared.

The TUCP also called on Government to review, with the end view of granting presidential pardons, all cases of trade unionists and workers who are currently serving time for "crimes committed in the pursuance of trade union activities."

On delivery of basic services—including power, water, education, and justice—the TUCP said "there has been an absence of coordinated and sustained government effort to drastically improve its capability to deliver basic services."

The lifting of foreign exchange controls was welcomed, but Government "failed to provide safety nets to cushion the impact." As many export-oriented industries laid off workers, Government has yet to do "anything concrete" to alleviate their plight, the TUCP said.

Despite dialogues with Malacanang and promises aired by the President, Government's priority "certainly is not the labor sector," the TUCP declared. "Nothing concrete has been achieved in these dialogues," they said.

However, the TUCP said the President should remain committed to his program of "people empowerment." Workers, they said, "will continue to have faith in this Government if they see actual and tangible programs in pursuit" of his goal.

Thailand

Royal Announcement Appoints Cabinet Ministers

BK2909125192 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Announcement on the appointment of cabinet ministers.

Royal Signature: Phumiphon Adunyadet

His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet has commanded that it be announced that in connection with his gracious appointment of Chuan Likphai as prime minister per the announcement dated 23 September 1992, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai has selected individuals suitable for cabinet minister posts to administer the country. His majesty the king has thus appointed the following cabinet ministers in accordance with Article 159 of the 1991 Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand, amended by the fourth amendment of 1992:

Banyat Banthatthan as deputy prime minister;
Amnuai Wirawan as deputy prime minister;
Bunchu Rotchanasathian as deputy prime minister;
Suphachai Phanitchaphak as deputy prime minister;
Thoetphong Chaiyanan as minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office;
Sawit Phothiwihok as minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office;
Surasak Thiamprasoet as minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office;
Colonel Chinnawut Sunthonsima as minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office;
General Wichit Sukmak as defense minister;
Major General Sombat Rotphothong as deputy defense minister;
Tharin Nimmanhemin as finance minister;
Trairong Suwannakhiri as deputy finance minister;
Bunchu Trithong as deputy finance minister;
Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri as foreign minister;
Surin Phitsuwan as deputy foreign minister;
Niphon Phromphan as agriculture and cooperatives minister;
Suthep Thuaksuban as deputy agriculture and cooperatives minister;
Sawat Supsaiphrom as deputy agriculture and cooperatives minister;
Thawin Chanprasong as deputy agriculture and cooperatives minister;
Col. Winai Somphong as communications minister;
Chawat Phuachuai as deputy communications minister;
Sawai Phatthano as deputy communications minister;
Thawi Kraikhup as deputy communications minister;
Somsak Thepsuthin as deputy communications minister;
Uthai Phimchaichon as commerce minister;
Chaiyot Sasomsap as deputy commerce minister;
Churin Laksanawisit as deputy commerce minister;
Phaithun Kaeothong as deputy commerce minister;
Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyut as interior minister;
Den Tomina as deputy interior minister;

Suthat Ngoenmuen as deputy interior minister;
Chamni Sakdiset as deputy interior minister;
Chaowat Sutlapha as deputy interior minister;
Suwit Khunkitti as justice minister;
Phisan Munlasatsathon as science, technology, and environment minister;
Pricha Musikun as deputy science, technology, and environment minister;
Samphan Thongsamak as education minister;
Pramot Sukhum as deputy education minister;
Sangthong Sitharet as deputy education minister;
Adison Phiangket as deputy education minister;
Buntham Khaewatthana as public health minister;
Rakkiat Sukthana as deputy public health minister;
Anek Thapsuwan as deputy public health minister;
Udomsin Sisaengnam as deputy public health minister;
Major General Sanan Khachonprasat as industry minister;
Phonthep Techaphaibun as deputy industry minister;
Kiatchai Chaichawarat as deputy industry minister;
Suthep Atthakon as state university bureau minister.

This is to be effective immediately.

Announced on 29 September 1992, being the 47th year under the reign of the present king.

Countersigned by: Chuan Likphai, prime minister.

Chuan Says Development 'Cornerstone' of Policy

BK3009044992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Sep 92 pp 1, 3

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said yesterday he will make political, economic and social development the cornerstone of his Government's policy.

Speaking at a Narathiwat hotel after an audience at Taksin Ratchanives Palace where he presented the new Cabinet lineup to His Majesty the King, Mr Chuan said the three aspects of national development were interrelated and inseparable, and therefore needed equal attention.

He made the statement after being asked if there would be conflicts since most of the deputy prime ministers are experts in the economic field.

His Cabinet includes four well-known bankers and economists—Amnuai Wirawan, Suphachai Phanitchaphak, Bunchu Rotchanasthtian and Tharin Nimmanhemin.

"Looking at the Cabinet, one may think that economic growth and stability is the main thrust of this government. But we have to give equal importance to the social well-being of the people. A welfare state can only be achieved when there is economic prosperity. Conversely for the economy to prosper the social conditions must be right," he said.

Mr Chuan said he will himself take charge of social affairs.

The new Cabinet will be sworn in tomorrow at Taksin Ratchanives Palace after a meeting of the House of Representatives.

The first Cabinet meeting will be held on Friday when every party in the coalition will be asked to send their representatives to participate in the drafting of the Government's policy statement to Parliament, he said.

Asked how long he thought the Government would last, Mr Chuan said he could not yet tell because it would depend on the Government's ability to create confidence among the people in the country and foreign investors.

Confidence in the Government would have a favourable effect on investment and economic growth, he said.

The Prime Minister reiterated the Government's intention to decentralise administrative power to the provinces, adding that parties in the coalition will discuss this matter again to formulate a clearcut policy.

He reaffirmed his policy to weed out corruption in government and even if he does not succeed 100 per cent he would do his best to keep it to a bare minimum.

Mr Chuan is confident his Cabinet is fairly good, although it may not be a "dream Cabinet."

Asked if it was necessary to have a deputy defence minister, Mr Chuan said the present Constitution allows for 49 Cabinet ministers including the Prime Minister. Some of the ministries have many deputy ministers.

"The Defence Ministry has only one deputy minister. I don't think it is too many," Mr Chuan said.

On the suggestion that southerners have pinned high hopes on his Government, Mr Chuan said people in the South, like from other regions, want the Government to decentralise power to speed up development to rural areas.

On security in the five southernmost provinces of Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and Satun, Mr Chuan, a Trang MP, said since the people in these provinces are mostly Muslim the Government as well as officials understand their problems and know what they want.

"Personally, I believe the people in the five provinces, like those elsewhere, want to see peace and order in the country, prosperity and better work opportunities," he said.

Speaking at Don Muang airport before leaving for Narathiwat yesterday, Mr Chuan said outside economic experts have been included in the new Government to ensure systematic growth so that the benefits could reach the people at the village level and not just the rich and the middle class.

Mr Chuan said the most important task at hand was the distribution of income resulting from economic expansion and making Thailand more attractive to investors.

"We got economic ministers who have the expertise in finance and banking so that they can help the Government attain its objectives," Mr Chuan said.

Asked if his aim was to make Thailand the "fifth Asian tiger", the Prime Minister said he just wanted to take the Thai economy to a point from where it could launch itself on a systematic growth pattern and with the confidence of foreign countries.

Asked if his economic team could ensure that growth will not be confined to those at the top and the middle class Mr Chuan said it's the policy of his Government, no matter what ministry to deliver the benefits to the rural poor.

"Be it the financial or the industrial sector, the priority has been the people at large," Mr Chuan said.

Asked if his strong-minded team of economic ministers would have problems working together Mr Chuan said a difference of opinion was not unusual and besides, he did not want everyone to have the same opinion because then there could be no constructive debate.

Asked if an outstanding economic team would not overshadow other teams dealing with other problems, Mr Chuan said personally he was more worried about social problems and that's why he put up a strong economic team to give the Government time to tackle social issues.

How this will be done will be explained in the Government's policy for statement to Parliament, he said, but the main objective was to make the country subject to the real rule of law and establish peace and order to enhance the quality of life of the people.

"Distribution of economic growth and income are big matters. Economic and social problems are interrelated. They can not be separated. You can not concentrate on one and neglect the other. They have to go together," Mr Chuan said.

On ASEAN Mr Chuan said wait for the policy statement of the Government.

"The Foreign Minister will be looking after this. Normally foreign policy changes little from one government to another. It's more a matter of priorities."

Asked if he would advise foreign countries on any matters, Mr Chuan said he wanted to concentrate on domestic issues because there are many pressing matters.

He would like to solve these problems before embarking on overseas visits. As for the ASEAN Free Trade Area, it's an international agreement and introducing changes at this stage would be difficult.

However, the Prime Minister is expected to accompany the Crown Prince to Brunei during October 1-6.

Asked about the rift in the New Aspiration Party, the Premier said it was no different from any other party because it's not always possible to keep things smooth.

Ministers Comment on Work in New Posts

BK3009045592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak yesterday pledged to follow the Chuan government's policy for the military to stay away from politics.

Gen Wichit, a former deputy armed forces chief-of-staff, said he would instruct all levels of commanding officers in the armed forces to uphold democratic rule and become "as much of a career soldier as possible."

The military will "stand by the people" and military officers will be encouraged to give their political viewpoints as that is a basic human right under the Constitution, Gen Wichit said.

The Defence Minister said the people would have a lot of confidence in Prime Minister Chuan Likphai. He said the military under the Chuan government will stay in the barracks and tend to affairs primarily concerning national defence.

Gen Wichit said he did not feel embarrassed to take over the defence portfolio and admitted that it took him only five hours to decide to accept.

"I will not disappoint the Prime Minister or the people," he said.

The Defence Minister said he expects cooperation from the leading commanders of all the armed forces and there would be no problem in coordinating with Defence Ministry Permanent Secretary ACM Suwit Chanthapradit or deputy permanent secretaries and Deputy Defence Minister Maj-Gen Sombat Rotphothong.

Gen Wichit has a maxim which says: "Warriors must be brave, soldiers must be disciplined, bosses must be moral and leaders must be for society."

Communications Minister Winai Somphong pledged to make Thailand a centre for telecommunications, and would continue with projects of the Telephone Organisation of Thailand and the Airports Authority of Thailand which have already been approved by former communications minister Nukun Prachuapmo.

Existing and new telecommunications projects will greatly support expanding economic developments and promote flourishing investments in the country, Col Winai said.

The Communications Minister said he will seriously look for solutions to traffic congestion problems in Bangkok, Nakhon Ratchasima, Khon Kaen and other provinces. He said he would expand ringroad systems in the provinces.

Col Winai, a deputy leader of the Phalang Tham Party, said none of the communications ministers will be corrupt or take commissions.

Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon yesterday pledged to handle trade issues with honesty and justice.

Mr Uthai, the leader of the eight-MP Solidarity Party, called his portfolio a "ministry of profits" which runs "against all odds" and is prone to criticism no matter if it works well or poorly.

"Traders want to make a lot of profit and consumers want to eat cheap food," the Commerce Minister said.

Mr Uthai said that he will see to it that nobody is making any profit to the chagrin of other people.

The Solidarity Party leader stressed that he will work with honesty and strong determination.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said he will promote the Foreign Ministry's role in international economic affairs in view of the emergence of various regional groupings.

Thai embassies overseas will have to contribute more towards helping the country expand foreign markets as well as finding new technology and funds.

The Foreign Ministry will at the same time try to help other economic ministries expand markets for Thai exports.

Armed Forces Approve New Defense Minister

BK3009052192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] The armed forces have approved the appointment of Gen Wichit Sukmak as defence minister, Armed Forces Information Office director Lt Gen Anuson Kritsanaserani said yesterday.

Gen Wichit was scheduled to be promoted tomorrow from armed forces deputy to full chief-of-staff before he submitted his resignation letter yesterday to Supreme Commander ACM Woranat Aphichari so he could join Prime Minister Chuan Likhpai's government.

It is still not known who will replace him as armed forces chief-of-staff.

Lt-Gen Anuson said Gen Wichit was a career soldier and therefore acceptable because of his knowledge, ability and outstanding work record.

But the appointment has not met with universal support. New Aspiration Party deputy leader Gen Phat Akkhanibut said it may become a problem politically.

Gen Phat said Gen Wichit would have no problem handling the work of the defence portfolio, but he may become a problem politically because he was not elected and had no political base.

Gen Wichit also differs from most of his predecessors by being a political rather than a military choice.

Theoretically, Gen Wichit is neutral, but he was nominated by the Democrat Party and is therefore unlikely to receive any support from the other parties.

Gen Phat said the political power balance between the military and political branches had shifted now politicians felt the courage to criticise the Army.

He also said the armed forces may suffer a loss in bargaining power over budget matters.

Gen Phat refused to say whether the changes would end in a conflict between the government and military.

"But at the right time and under the right conditions, things which have happened before may happen again," he said.

Cabinet Welcomed With 'Sarcasm,' 'Skepticism'

BK3009035992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Sep 92 p 1

[Text] Opposition leaders yesterday welcomed the Chuan Likphai government's Cabinet lineup with a tinge of skepticism and sarcasm.

"I think the new government will go well. I believe that we will have fewer problems with thieves, crimes and traffic jams," said Chat Phatthana Party [CPP] leader Chatchai Chunhawan when asked about the new Cabinet.

The former prime minister joined other opposition heavyweights at a dinner at the Siam City Hotel last night, where they discussed the new Cabinet lineup.

Also present at the party was CPP secretary-general Prachuap Chaiyasan, Chat Thai leader Praman Adireksan, secretary-general Banhan Sinlapa-acha, Muan Chon leader Chaloem Yubamrung and a Seri Tham Party representative.

Gen Chatchai said he welcomed the appointment of Deputy Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff Gen Wichit Sukmak to the defence portfolio.

"With Gen Wichit serving as defence minister I don't see how there will be anything to worry about because he is a good and knowledgeable man who can liaise with the armed forces," Gen Chatchai said.

Mr Prachuap, while commending the selection of senior politicians by the coalition parties for the lineup, expressed reservations over the appointments of three top bankers to the Cabinet.

"Although these people are highly respected, they are perfect capitalists and bankers. We are yet to see if they will really have sympathy, understanding and concern for the poor when they assume responsibility in the Government," said the Udon Thani MP.

He said that the country's central banking business is too centralised as most of the savings are mobilised into Bangkok.

Mr Prachuap said with these top bankers working in the Government he hoped that the country's banking system will be more liberalised.

The Government has yet to show if it will be able to assimilate individual member's policy into its central policy which will demonstrate its sincerity to address such crucial problems as income distribution, farmers' debts and the high cost of production.

Mr Prachuap also pointed out that a potential weak point of the coalition was its decision to appoint a Phalang Tham Party [PDP] member—Maj-Gen Sombat Rotphothong—as deputy defence minister.

"We have to wait and see what the PDP will do (through the deputy defence minister)," Mr Prachuap said.

Maj-Gen Sombat is a close friend of PDP de facto leader Chamlong Simuang, dating back to their classmate days at Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy.

Pol Capt Chaloem said the lineup in general is acceptable to him but raised strong reservations over the appointment of Democrat MP Phonthep Techaphaibun as deputy industry minister.

The Bangkok MP said Mr Phonthep's family runs the whiskey business and pointed out that his appointment came at a time when the Government was due to renew a distillery contract.

217 Listed as Missing From May Unrest

BK3009043392 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Sep 92 p 8

[Text] A total of 217 people are still listed as missing following the bloody events in May, Deputy Interior Permanent Secretary Ari Wong-araya said yesterday.

Mr Ari, who heads the ministry's committee to search for the missing, said 18 people originally listed as missing had recently returned, while two more people have just been registered as missing.

The official number of the missing is now 217, he said.

Mr Ari said his committee yesterday set up another sub-committee, comprising Local Administration Department officials, to search areas suspected to have been used for hiding the bodies of the missing.

The Cabinet has allocated a budget of 3,950,000 baht for searches and for cash rewards for informants who can provide clues leading to the recovery of the bodies of the missing, he said.

Mr Ari said the new Government will be informed of the committee's work and obstacles.

"The main obstacle is that we have never been informed of the exact locations suspected to have been used for hiding bodies," he said.

He asked the Press to help provide information and pictures of the missing.

Of the 48 bodies recovered from around the Royal Hotel in May, three have not yet been identified.

Two of the unidentified bodies are now at Sirirat Hospital and the other is at the Forensic Medicine Institute of the Police Hospital.

Mr Ari said his committee has not asked for information about the missing from the Defence Ministry's committee for searching for the missing, reasoning that some matters must be kept secret.

However, he said his committee has the authority to summon people to testify.

Mr Ari said his committee had searched the Cavalry Battalion at Kiakkai Intersection, Sangkhla Buri District of Kanchanaburi Province and Kap Choeng District of Surin, but failed to locate any of the missing.

He said the committee had also obtained information that the bodies had been dumped in the sea, at several border areas and graveyards, but the information did not give the exact location.

NAP Conflict Seen as Threat to Chuan Government

BK3009032192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Sep 92 p 5

[By Nopphon Wonganan]

[Text] Although the uproar in the New Aspiration Party (NAP) over Cabinet seats allocation has been settled for now, internal dissension is far from being solved and will remain—waiting for the time to explode and shake the government of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai.

The conflict pitted party leader Chawalit Yongchaiyut's advisory team led by Col Sonchai Montriwat against party secretary-general Phisan Munlasatsathon's faction comprising half of the party's 51 MPs [members of parliament], mainly from the Northeast.

Apart from Col Sonchai, the other advisers are Col Wichit Yathip and Col Aphiwan Wiriyachai who quit the Army service to "assist" their former boss, Gen Chalawit. The team, particularly Col Sonchai, was suspected by Phisan's faction of having influenced every decision made by Gen Chalawit, including the "doctored" list of Cabinet nominees. The northeastern MPs said two outsiders, Bangkok Bank chairman Amnuai Wirawan and General Finance and Securities Company chairman Narongchai Akkaraserani, were included in the list without their consent.

The conflict between Phisan's faction and Gen Chalawit's advisory team dates back to the time when the party was first set up. But Phisan appears to have the advantage after he managed to oust Phrasong Sunsiri in the race for the party secretary-general's post. Phisan also controls most northeastern MPs.

Some analysts believe Gen Chalawit and his staff are not happy with Phisan's faction and they have tried to keep a check on its role.

During the NAP's negotiations with the Democrats for its Cabinet quota, Phisan was sidelined after deputy party leader Wira Musikaphong wrested the Interior portfolio for Gen Chalawit, sources said.

They said Phisan's supporters tried unsuccessfully to bargain two Cabinet posts—Science Minister and Deputy Prime Minister—for their boss. The attempt led to a fierce argument between Col Sonchai and Ubon Ratchathani MP Witthaya Khan-asa at a congratulation party held for party MPs two weeks ago.

Phisan, said the sources, was unhappy when he was first nominated for Science Minister and Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office. He reportedly said that this was strange because it would prevent him from performing his duties effectively.

The faction accused the colonels of interference and making the Cabinet list by patronage.

The accusation was denied by one of the colonels, who said they merely gave information to Gen Chalawit, who had the final say. He also accused Phisan's followers, mostly northeastern MPs, of self-glorification and of seeking to fulfil their political ambitions.

"We gave first priority to education and capability of an MP who would take a ministerial post, not because of his political experience or because of regional quota," said a party source.

He admitted that the Cabinet list was changed because some of the nominees proposed by Phisan were not qualified although they had won the election several times.

"We cannot appoint a Matthayom 6-educated [high school graduate] MP to supervise well-educated permanent officials. We need to think about the reputation and stability of the coalition government when compared with the administration of Mr Anan Panyarachun," said the source.

But Phisan's faction claimed they have other qualified people to fill up the five posts earlier allocated to them.

At the height of the conflict, Gen Chalawit reportedly threatened to pull the NAP out of the coalition government which might pave the way for the entry of the Chat Phatthana Party. Phisan, on the other hand, made an unveiled threat to join the Opposition if his demand for Cabinet posts was not met. The explosive situation was defused when a compromise solution was worked out.

NAP won 51 seats in the September 13 elections, 31 of them in the Northeast. Phisan, who is an MP for Surin, reportedly has about 20 northeastern MPs under his control. NAP spokesman Chaturon Chaisaeng, who failed to get elected, is also closely associated with Phisan.

As party secretary-general, Phisan was national campaign manager in the March elections, but this responsibility was given to Gen Siri Thiwaphan in the latest elections. Phisan was accused by his opponents of providing only little financial support to the party during the election.

Other "big" donors included Col Sonchai, Lampang MP Bunchu Trithong and Ratchaburi MP Thawi Kraikhup.

Sources said a new round of power struggle between the two factions might flare up again when the posts of secretary and adviser to Cabinet ministers are allocated among the MPs. These posts are traditionally given as a consolation to members who failed to get elected or who failed to be appointed ministers. Again, if Phisan's followers are denied most of the posts, they may try to undermine the government's stability, said the source.

Despite the problem with Phisan's faction, Gen Chalawit's staff is determined to bring in a new generation of capable and honest members. They are also willing to sacrifice some self-interested members.

"We are ready to be a party with only 20 qualified MPs and to assume an opposition role if the internal conflict reaches breaking point," said a source close to Gen Chalawit's staff advisers.

Without doubt, such a statement does not bode well for Prime Minister Chuan's government.

Vietnam

U.S. Plan for Asian Radio Station Denounced

BK2909114992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 19 Sep 92

[Station commentary: "The United States Plans To Set Up More Radio Stations Against Socialist Countries in Asia"]

[Text] Dear friends, as part of their statagem of peaceful evolution, antisocialist forces are directing their spearhead at many Asian countries through the setting up of more new, controversial radio stations. The following commentary deals with the nature of this stratagem:

Voice of America radio on the evening of 18 September reported that a U.S. House committee has advised the U.S. Government to set up a new radio station to beam its broadcasts toward Asian countries, chiefly to Vietnam, Laos, China, the DPRK, and Burma. Such broadcasts will carry news reports on the internal situation in these countries just as Radio Free Europe or Radio Freedom in Eastern Europe did over the past 30 years or more.

Voice of America also quoted some members of this U.S. House committee as saying that the new radio can be named Radio Democratic Asia or Radio Asian News. They also said that Voice of America cannot fully cover all the daily internal activities of certain Asian countries. This is because, according to them, Voice of America is a government agency. Therefore, a more appropriate radio station is necessary. And President Bush has also

favored increased radio broadcasts toward Asian countries. Many members in this U.S. House committee also further advised that the new radio directed at Asian countries should be headquartered at San Francisco or Los Angeles, where it can recruit many Asians—who are now living in exile in the United States—with radio broadcasting and journalistic experience.

Thus, there is more evidence that the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Government are advocating the intensification of the mass media system with the emphasis placed on using radio stations to oppose other countries. This is a carefully calculated move. As for its targets, this U.S. radio will be directed at the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, the DPRK, and China. With regard to the contents of its broadcasts, this new radio will stir up and distort the internal affairs of various targeted countries and through this, instigate the people to oppose their parties and their administrations, destroy the all-people great solidarity bloc, and incite rebellion—something the United States did for 30 years against East Europe and the former Soviet Union when they used Radio Europe and Radio Free Europe to create trouble. Similarly, they are currently using the Jose Marti Radio and Television Stations located in the United States to oppose the cause of national construction and defense of the Cuban people.

We regard the U.S. use of radio stations to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, including Vietnam, as a wrongful action running against the world community's regulations governing the use of radio stations.

Now more than ever before, we should be vigilant against all ill- intentioned or antagonistic propaganda allegations originating from the radios of many countries, which are day and night beaming their broadcasts toward our country and peddling propaganda against our cause.

Meeting Marks China's National Day

BK2909145192 Hanoi VNA in English 1401 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 29—A meeting was held here this morning by the Vietnam Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Associations and the Vietnam-China Friendship Association to mark the 43rd national day of China (Oct 1).

Among those present at the event were Nguyen Cong Tan, minister of agriculture and food industry and president of the Vietnam-China Friendship Association and Nguyen Trung Hieu, general secretary of the Vietnam Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Associations.

Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Zhang Dewei was also on hand.

Minister Nguyen Cong Tan and Ambassador Zhang Dewei brought out the great significance of the Chinese national day and the major achievements recorded by the Chinese people over the past 43 years. They proposed toasts to greater achievements of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples in their renovation and reform policies, and the further development of the friendship between the two countries in the interests of the two countries and for peace, friendship, stability and cooperation in the region.

Chinese Party Control Delegation Ends Visit

BK2609151592 Hanoi VNA in English 1459 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 26—A delegation of the Communist Party of China officials led by Chang Chuanching, deputy head of the Commission for Organization of the party Central Committee, has visited Vietnam at the invitation of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee.

It was received by Le Phuoc Tho, Politburo member, secretary of the Army Central Committee and head of the Comission for Organization of the CPV Central Committee.

It also compared notes with Vietnamese officials on the issues of party building and personnel work in the present process of renovation and open door policies...

The Chinese guests visited several economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi, Hue and Ho Chi Minh City.

Maritime Cooperation With Russia To Be Enhanced

BK2809074592 Hanoi VNA in English 0639 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 28—Vietnam and Russia have agreed to work together to explore maritime resources offshore Vietnam as well as to develop relations in economic production and scientific and technological research among sea product enterpises of the two countries.

The agreement was reached during a recent ten-day visit to Russia by a delegation of the Vietnamese Ministry of Aquatic Products led by Minister Nguyen Tan Trinh.

Minister Nguyen Tan Trinh and the chairman of the Commission for Fisheries of the Russian Federation, Mr V.P. Korenskiy, discussed on the implementation of the bilateral cooperation and prospects for cooperation in fisheries between the two countries. They expressed satisfaction at the results of Vietnamese-Russian joint ventures in fisheries, and held it necessary to expand their production and business in order to increase profits and to establish new joint ventures with the participation of a third party.

During its stay in Russia, the delegation visited production enterprises and scientific and technical institutions in Moscow, Vladivostok and Sakhalin.

Diplomatic Relations Established with Azerbaijan

BK2809160692 Hanoi VNA in English 0558 GMT 24 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 24—Vietnam and the Republic of Azerbaijan have established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level.

The protocol to this effect was signed in Moscow on September 23 by Vietnamese Ambassador to Russia Ho Huan Nghiem and Vice Premier N. Gatzizade, permanent representative of Azerbaijan to the Russian Federation.

Hanoi, Singapore Sign Most Favored Nation Accord

BK2609065792 Hanoi VNA in English 0543 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 26—Vietnam and Singapore on Sept. 24 signed a trade pact to further develop and strengthen already expanding bilateral economic and trade ties and to grant each other the most-favoured-nation status.

At the signing ceremony held in Singapore, Singapore's senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry Lim Boon Heng expressed his belief that the two countries re-entering a new era of closer economic relations.

Vietnam's Minister of Trade and Tourism Le Van Triet declared that "trading with Singapore, one of Vietnam's biggest partners, keeps increasing and the agreement would create a trade corridor for both countries to benefit in the areas of customs formalities, duties and taxes".

Trade Ties With Singapore Viewed

BK2909035192 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Singapore and Vietnam announced they signed a trade pact to further develop and strengthen all of the expanding bilateral economic trade ties. Here is our review of the relations between Vietnam and Singapore.

Singapore's minister of state for trade and industry, Lim Boon Heng, states: With the Singapore-Vietnam trade agreement, we will have in place the legal framework to enable trade and investment to flourish. Singapore had earlier this year signed a (?travel) agreement with Vietnam to strengthen shipping and air links. Vietnam's minister of trade and tourism, Le Van Triet, states the agreement would create a trade corridor for both countries to benefit in areas of customs formalities, duties, and taxes. Mr. Triet states that 25 Singapore companies have been allowed to set up operations in Vietnam, of which two were in Hanoi and 23 in Ho Chi Minh City. Bilateral trade last year hit a record 1.5 billion Singapore dollars, or U.S.$398 million [figure as heard]. During the first six months of this year, bilateral trade totalled U.S.$541 million, with exports to Vietnam totalling U.S.$341 million, and imports reaching U.S.$190 million, an 18 percent increase over the same period last year.

The Singapore state minister, Mr. Lim, said trade in exportable services such as shipping, banking and insurance were also set to expand. Vietnam's reconstruction program would generate a demand for infrastructure construction and engineering services. With the newly-signed trade agreement, the relations between Vietnam and Singapore will certainly be developed in various fields for mutual interest. This is also in keeping with the aspirations of the two peoples, contributing to the trend for dialogue for cooperation and progress in Southeast Asia.

Investment Committee Signs Pact With Thailand

BK2809145392 Hanoi VNA in English 1414 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 28—A delegation of the permanent office of the Investment Council of Thailand led by secretary general of the council Sathaphon Kawitanon arrived here today as guest of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment (SCCI).

Mr. Nguyen Mai, vice chairman of the SCCI, and Mr. Sathaphon Kawitanon signed here this afternoon a memorandum on cooperation and investment between the SCCI and the permanent office of the Thai Investment Council.

Present at the signing ceremony were chairman of the SCCI Dau Ngoc Xuan and Thai ambassador to Vietnam Suraphong Chaiyanam.

The Thai guests have met representatives of the Ministry of Heavy Industry, the Ministry of Transport, Communication and Post, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, and a number of production establishments to identify the areas of possible investment and cooperation.

Economic Delegation Visits Germany 12-28 Sep

BK3009061592 Hanoi VNA in English 0540 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 30—An economic delegation led by Le Dang Doanh, deputy head of the Central Institute for Economic Management, made a study tour of Germany from Sept. 12-28.

During its stay there, the delegation met with the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and the Foreign Ministry of Germany, and discussed with the hosts possibilities to broaden economic cooperation between the two countreis. The delegation also had working sessions with German industrial and commercial organizations and toured a number of research institutes and economic management offices in various localities of Germany. During these visits the German hosts introduced to the Vietnamese delegation experiences in the organisation of cooperative forms among private companies in industry, trade and banking.

Australian Firm Proposes Largest Tourism Project

BK2909074992 Hanoi VNA in English 0554 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Hanoi VNA Sept.29—Australia's Asia-Pacific Development (APD) group are negotiating with the authorities in Quang Nam-Danang Province on the central coast for what is believed to be a big investment project in terms of both capital and duration that would turn the port city of Danang into a major international tourism centre.

Under the investment scheme, APD would pour 500 million US dollars or 80 percent of the total project investment into the biggest joint undertaking in tourism in Vietnam to date. The joint venture would last 99 years.

Part of the sum would go into urbanisation on an area of about 20,000 square metres of land and sea.

The rest of the money would be used for the construction of workshops and recreation centres, the purchase of equipment, and personnel training.

The local authorities said the joint undertaking with APD would not only promote tourism along the coast studded with scenic places and historical sites. It would also provide strong logistics support to a growing number of Australian businessmen who are keen in doing business on the coast. [passage omitted]

ASEAN Countries Continuing Investment Projects

BK2709082292 Hanoi VNA in English 0533 GMT 27 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 27—ASEAN countries have continued to invest in Vietnam.

By late February 1992, nearly 50 companies of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Singapore had invested in 54 projects in Vietnam with a total capital of 220 million USD [U.S. dollars], occupying 13.6 percent of the total number of licensed projects and 7.7 percent of registered capital since the promulgation of the Law on Foreign Invesment in Vietnam in late 1987.

ASEAN countries have invested mostly in oil and gas exploration and exploitation mining, fisheries and processing of maritime, agricultural and forest products, production of consumer goods, car assembly, hotels, services, and banking.

Thailand is the first country to invest in Vietnam. It now has 23 projects with a total capital of 42.2 million USD ranking 16th among the 34 investor countries. It has invested mostly in fisheries, gem processing, hotel services and production of consumer goods.

Singapore is the second biggest investor after Japan in terms of trade value. However, most of its projects are small enterprises representing only half of Thailand's in terms of capital.

Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines began investing in Vietnam only 1990 and all their projects, though small are doing well.

Indonesia has many large-scale projects especially Indonesia Bank with an investment capital of 10 million USD to provide foreign exchange payment service. Indonesia has also signed a 27 million USD contract for coal mining.

Malaysia has invested in offshore oil and gas development. A contract signed between Petro-Vietnam and Petronas provides for a 65 million USD investment in the first phase. This is the biggest investment project of Malaysia in Vietnam and the only project on oil and gas development of an ASEAN country in Vietnam.

The Philippines has four projects of which the most important is a car assembly and manufacture plant with a total registered capital of 33 million USD.

An official of the Vietnam Committee for Cooperation and Investment, ASEAN countries' investment in Vietnam remain modest in both number and capital, not commensurate with the potential of ASEAN investors. [sentence as received]

But once agreements on investment guarantee are signed with these countries, the pace will surely pick up, he said.

Doan Khue Meets Voters in Quang Tri Province

BK3009085392 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 27 Sep 92

[Text] General Doan Khue, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, minister of national defense, and deputy to the Ninth National Assembly from Quang Tri Province, recently held meetings with voters in four districts—Vinh Linh, Gio Linh, Cam Lo, and Huong Hoa. The meetings took place in localities in the delta and coastal regions, as well as at state farms and forestry sites, and in mountainous areas inhabited by people of the Ba Hu and Van Kieu nationalities.

In all these places, voters cheefully contributed their views to the National Assembly on various, current, pressing problems, such as the struggle against corruption, policies on agriculture, national defense and security work, and the line of renovation in rural areas.

General Doan Khue warmly welcomed the constructive spirit and frankness of voters. He listened attentively to these views and promised to present them to the first session of the Ninth National Assembly for study and settlement.

Heavy Industry Ministry's Export Revenue Reported

BK2909074192 Hanoi VNA in English 0605 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 29—So far this year the Ministry of Heavy Industry has earned 26.1 million US dollars from export, achieving 68 percent of its yearly plan.

Export items included 1,500 tonnes of tin, 22,000 tonnes of zinc ore, 27,000 tonnes of steel, hundreds of tonnes of chromium ore, machinery, industrial rubber, etc.

Meanwhile, the ministry imported fertilizer, insecticide, engines and farm machines worth 20 million US dollars, and 17 more million US dollars of electronic equipment.

Various companies and enterprises under the ministry have signed contracts valued at 12 million US dollars for the export of goods in the last months of this year.

The Union of Import-Export Companies of Haiphong port city has so far this year gained an export value of 10 million US dollars and contributed 896 million dong to the state budget.

Imports, Exports Face Quality Control Procedures

BK2709143592 Hanoi VNA in English 1359 GMT 27 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 27—A new decision has been issued by the State Science Committee for controlling the quality of imports and exports. The decision stipulated that from September 1, 1992, all the commodities listed as subject to the state's control of quality must be registered for quality control at the State Quality Control Office before being imported or exported. Only those goods with an export or import licence granted by the Ministry of Commerce and Tourism and a quality control certificate issued by the State Quality Control Office can go through the customs check.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Commerce and Tourism has announced a temporary ban as from Sept. 8, 1992 on the import of 17 items. These are bicycles and spare parts, electric fans, household electric appliances (except VCRs), Thermos flasks, clothes and knitwear, china, pottery and glassware (except high-quality glassware), cloth (except high-quality cloth and cloth imported for the production of export garments), writing paper and newsprint, cosmetics, soap and detergent, fresh and processed foods and drinks (except powdered milk, gourmet powder, butter, cheese, liquor and food for joint-venture and foreign-invested restaurants), plastic ware, insecticide sprayers, etc. This ban applies to all forms of commercial import (by quota, through cross-border trade or exchange) into Vietnam. Contracts on the import of any of the listed commodities already signed and registered at the import-export licensing office before this decision takes effect and be proceeded with [as received], but not later than October 16, 1992. All other import contracts contrary to this decision must be cancelled.

Assembly Debates Government Structure 29 Sep

BK2909130692 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] The National Assembly deputies held debates this morning within their provincial groups on the government structure and list of cabinet candidates that was presented to the National Assembly by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet in yesterday's sitting.

After that the National Assembly held a plenary session at the conference hall under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh.

Authorized by the National Assembly, Comrade Vu Mao, chief of the National Assembly Secretariat, reported on the revision of and supplement to the draft bill on the organization of the government after receiving opinions from the deputies. He also read the full text of the revised draft law on the organization of the government to the National Assembly.

After that, the National Assembly discussed and voted on every article of the draft law. Despite the fact that the draft law had been revised, the deputies still examined every sentence, word, and paragraph of every article of the draft law.

By the end of the day, the National Assembly approved the name of the draft law and chapter one, including the preamble and seven articles.

Tomorrow, the National Assembly will continue its work at the conference hall.

Assembly Issues Communique No 7 on 29 Sep

BK2909151392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Communique No. 7 of the Ninth National Assembly's first session]

[Text] On 29 September, the National Assembly held a plenary meeting at the conference hall in Hanoi. Nong Duc Manh, chairman of the National Assembly, directed the meeting.

In the morning, the National Assembly heard Vu Mao, chief of the National Assembly Secretariat, on behalf of the chairman of the National Assembly, report on developments in the discussion of the draft law on the organization of the government. The National Assembly also heard the representative of the National Assembly Judiciary Committee report on the viewpoints of National Assembly deputies and read the revised draft law on the organization of the government.

Afterward, the National Assembly voted to approve a number of articles in Chapter I of the draft law.

In the afternoon, the National Assembly continued its plenary meeting to approve the draft law on the organization of the government.

Assembly Deputies View Socioeconomic Issues

BK2909142792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 21 Sep 92

[Reports by station correspondent on conversations with deputies attending first session of Ninth National Assembly in Hanoi—portions recorded]

[Summary] Today, we met Mr. Nguyen Van Nhan, National Assembly deputy from Ha Bac Province. He said that after participating in discussion sessions of draft bills, he realized that these legal documents, when they are passed by the National Assembly to become laws, will correct major shortcomings in the state management. The loopholes in the laws, which have been exploited by bad elements to conduct illegal business and which have created favorable conditions for corruption, will be fixed. However, in order to make the anticorruption work become more efficient, regulations and legal documents must be scrupulous and the administration work must be serious and impartial. He said:

[Begin Nguyen Van Nhan recording] In the present situation, renovation and government by means of the law is very important. Only on the basis of legislation can our country gradually complete its government by means of the law. As a deputy of Ha Bac Province, through contacts with the public, I noted that voters in many places stated that corruption is very common at the moment. I suggest the government, especially the National Assembly, solves the problem with strict and timely punishment so that the party can gain back the confidence of the public. And on that basis, the country can gradually be governed by means of the law. [end recording]

In conversation with us, Mrs. Nguyen Thu Ha focused on economic policies, especially agriculture. She remarked that the food price in Thai Binh and Hanoi has been stable, proving that our economy is being stabilized, as confirmed in the Council of Ministers' report. However, she said that there still are problems which need attention from the National Assembly. Firstly, that is the low price of agricultural products, especially paddy and rice, compared with the prices of other products in our country. In order to improve the price of agricultural products and to encourage the peasants in their production, she said:

[Begin Nguyen Thu Ha recording] Paddy production in Thai Binh is great but its selling price barely covers insecticide, fertilizer, and living expenses. And the winter food crop is mainly for livestock breeding. Therefore, the life of the peasants has not improved much. I suggest the National Assembly reduces the price of necessary goods for agriculture production in order to better implement the national campaign of elimination starvation and reduce poverty. [end recording]

Apart from the agriculture subsidy policy, Mrs. Ha also mentioned the unemployment problem. In dealing with that, she suggested quicker developing of artisan industry, shifting more people to the new economic zones, and increasing industrial tree cultivation.

In our conversation with Deputy Le Viet Duoc, director of the Thanh Hoa tobacco plant, he said:

[Begin Le Viet Duoc recording] According to Comrade Phan Van Khai's report, this year, our country puts aside 800 billion dong for the national employment service. Our plant is striving to provide more jobs for people living near the plant. In order to do that, we need more raw material to increase production. And we are encouraging tobacco tree planting in our surrounding areas. [end recording]

We also met Nguyen Thi Hong Minh, deputy director of the aquaculture department in Minh Hai Province. She focused on measures to improve local product export for foreign currencies. She said that one of the major export products in our country are aquacultural products. She stated:

[Begin Nguyen Thi Hong Minh recording] Minh Hai has great potential for aquacultural products. If the government has appropriate policies to encourage sea products export, Minh Hai can export $200-300 million a year. Therefore, my duty in the National Assembly is to make the government and National Assembly realize the potential of aquaculture so that more investment will be allocated in this area. At the same time, I will point out unreasonable policies and call for better a taxation policy for the development of Minh Hai aquaculture. [end recording]

Those aforementioned issues are also the concerns that voters in the country are sharing. The voters place their confidence in the National Assembly deputies and hope that with the renovation the National Assembly will fufill the trust of the public.

Pham Van Kiet Speaks to Assembly on Voters' Views

First Part

BK2509104792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 23 Sep 92

["First part" of report on views of voters nationwide on the National Assembly delivered by Pham Van Kiet, vice chairman and secretary general of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, at the 23 September proceedings of the current Ninth National Assembly's first session in Hanoi—recorded]

[Text] Dear National Assembly deputies:

The voters highly welcomed the important results achieved by the Eighth National Assembly, especially its efforts in completing the 1992 Constitution—which many deputies called the renovative Constitution—in formulating many new laws, and in resolving many issues in order to meet the aspirations and interests of the people. They expressed the hope that the Ninth National Assembly will bring these achievements into

full play and strive to overcome the shortcomings raised by the Eighth National Assembly at its last session.

The voters also asserted that the National Assembly must firmly maintain the revolutionary path chosen by Uncle Ho, our party, and people, and must reject pluralism and the multiparty system. The Ninth National Assembly must strive to exercise more satisfactorily its power and duty, in which area the Eighth National Assembly experienced shortcomings. These include the National Assembly's supreme control over the implementation of the Constitution, the enforcement of laws and resolutions of the National Assembly, the adoption of the state financial and budgetary policy, the approval of the state budget, and a decision on the allotment of state revenues.

The voters seriously criticized many deputies of the Eighth National Assembly for distancing themselves from voters in their constituencies. They asked the Ninth National Assembly to take appropriate measures to overcome this shortcoming so as to correctly implement Article 43 of the law on organization of the National Assembly. It is necessary to design a mechanism through which the voters can review the conduct and activities of National Assembly deputies. Efforts should be made to improve coordination between the National Assembly Standing Committee and the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF], between delegations of the National Assembly and the Fatherland Front committees in provinces and cities so that the VFF may carry out its tasks and duties in close coordination with state agencies and elected deputies in accordance with Article 9 of the 1992 Constitution.

The voters also wished to have many professional deputies and would like to have a policy to motivate competent, worthy persons to run in the general elections or to participate in some areas of the National Assembly's activities as advisers, specialists, general inspectors, and so forth. It is necessary to set up National Assembly offices in provinces and municipalities in order to seriously carry out tasks in a disciplined manner.

Many voters said that after monitoring activities of National Assembly deputies, they found that some of them have contributed nothing to the National Assembly sessions throughout their term of office. As a result, it is necessary for the Ninth National Assembly to urge deputies to enhance their sense of responsibility before the people, stay close to the people to hear their aspirations and study problems in their daily life, firmly grasp the party lines and policies as well as the contents of the Constitution and the state law, and positively participate in discussing and making decisions on various issues at the National Assembly's sessions.

Many other voters also complained that they did not see any measures taken by the National Assembly to settle grievances lodged by them to National Assembly deputies. As a result, I propose that National Assembly deputies of the new legislature should strive to seriously implement Article 64 of the law on organization of the National Assembly.

The voters also contributed their ideas on work of the Council of Ministers. They noted that during the past several years, the Council of Ministers has made great efforts and has achieved many encouraging results in various issues, especially in curbing and dispelling the inflation. The Council of Ministers has also developed production, improved the people's daily life, and expanded relations with foreign countries. The people wish the government to enhance its management work, seriously enforce laws and discipline, create a combined strength throughout the country, coordinate with the VFF and other mass organizations to launch various mass revolutionary movements, and implement socio-economic and national defense and security tasks. They wish it to strive to oppose negativism, especially corruption; overcome red tape which inconveniences the people; review obsolete regulations and replace them with new ones; quickly formulate regulations to suit the new laws and conditions of the people's daily life; and consolidate the administrative agencies at various levels to make them pure, firm, and effective units.

Efforts should be made to improve the local administation, which is still weak, so it can effectively fulfill its tasks and strengthen relations with the people in localities.

During meetings with voters, the voters strongly criticized such negative phenomena as corruption, smuggling, and wastefulness, all of which are still prevalent. Some voters said that the more they are pleased, the more concern they suffer. They are pleased to see achievements in the renovation undertaking set by the Sixth and Seventh CPV Congresses, especially achievements in stabilizing the political situation, developing production, curbing inflation, improving the people's daily life, and expanding relations with foreign countries, thus creating new favorable conditions for our country to advance further. However, they are concerned to see the lingering corruption, smuggling, and wastefulness in our system, which are all very dangerous.

Regarding anticorruption work, voters suggested that measures should be taken to oppose as well as eliminate corruption. However, this must be carried out on a long-term basis to persistently dispel it in various steps. This is a very important task, for which the voters asked the National Assembly to use its power to effectively fulfill.

To satisfactorily fulfill this task, I think that the National Assembly should set up a competent, prestigious, and capable agency to take the responsibility. Measures must be taken to seriously deal with cases where there is clear evidence in accordance with the law. We must build our confidence in successfully eliminating this negativism. We must take various fundamental measures to fulfill this task in a uniform manner, such as by reviewing loopholes in various laws, regulations, and policies in order to amend them. We must adjust the pay scales for

officials and purify agencies with authority and financial responsibility in the management of state economic establishments. We must create favorable conditions for and ensure the rights of the people who struggle against these negative phenomena. We must organize the implementation of these tasks in a uniform manner while closely coordinating with responsible agencies to fulfill the work. Leading management cadres of various sectors and branches must set a good example for the others. They must be honest cadres who resolutely oppose corruption, who reject protection of and help for bad elements. The voters asked that each deputy of the Ninth National Assembly lead an exemplary and honest life while taking the lead in this struggle.

Regarding antismuggling, many voters wondered who the smugglers are. We should not mention names of certain individuals, but we may say that smuggling invoives members of state agencies, the army, the police, and so forth. In our society, this problem is a long-term and complicated issue, requiring effort and measures to overcome it. However, first of all, we must effectively oppose smuggling stemming from state agencies, the army, and police. The voters suggested that we should not allow the police, army, the customs department, the court, or control and judiciary branches to engage in business activities.

Regarding wastefulness, the voters suggested that we must strive to overcome embezzlement and waste in various areas, especially in capital construction. We must firmly deal with situations while opposing luxurious feasts and spending, rejecting the adoption of too many incentives, and prohibiting economic cadres from engaging in business activities. It is necessary to say that the laboring people, families of war invalids and fallen soldiers, and retired cadres are very indignant about these negative phenomena.

Last Part

BK2609142992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 24 Sep 92

["Last part" of report on views of voters nationwide on the National Assembly delivered by Pham Van Kiet, vice chairman and secretary general of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, at the 23 September proceedings of the current Ninth National Assembly's first session in Hanoi—recorded]

[Text] In the economic domain, voters presented many views including the following:

—It is necessary to make supplements and amendments to the agrarian law and urgently and definitely solve land disputes.

—Policies must be formulated by the state to render assistance to peasants, such as granting credit loans to poor peasants for use as capital on a priority basis, encouraging agricultural production, promoting the sale of farm products, and protecting prices of these products.

—Efforts must be made to readjust agricultural taxes rationally in terms of tax computation, average tax rate, and land specification.

—It is necessary for the state to direct all sectors toward a more specific, continuous, and uniform implementation of Resolution No. 22 of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and Decision No. 72 of the Council of Ministers on mountainous regions, especially in building roads and improving medical aid stations at the grass-roots level; ensuring sufficient supply of medicine for the treatment of malaria, goiter, and pasteurellosis; building schools; eradicating illiteracy; and constructing radio and television networks.

Voters also suggested that more effective policies and measures be applied by the state to localities inhabited mostly by people of ethnic minority groups, including those in the delta regions.

Faced with great difficulties and challenges in the market-oriented mechanism, many state-run business enterprises expressed the hope that our state would soon make arrangements and carry out registration work, as well as create favorable conditions for them to operate with efficiency. They also suggested that policies be formulated for investment activities in the country.

The lack of electricity is one of the many causes for limitation in production. However, electricity is used lavishly and indiscriminately in restaurants, hotels, dim-lit coffee shops with comfort girls, and so forth. Voters suggested that the state make a review of this to ensure that electricity is supplied to production on a priority basis and power consumption at these places is limited to a certain level.

Many voters again raised the question of an increase in electricity prices, which had been debated but had not yet definitely been solved at the final session of the Eighth National Assembly. They suggested that the Ninth National Assembly discuss and present some views on how to solve this question.

Many voters expressed doubts and deep concern over our ability to ensure safety and technical standards and solve problems concerning funds and the time for completion of the 500-kv north-south power grid in two years. They suggested that this issue be carefully considered.

Regarding cultural and social life, some voters suggested that plans be worked out by the state for the use of the state budget in creating more jobs in close combination with the program for the abolition of hunger and poverty in every locality, as well as with the allocation of land or forest land, the development of the hill-and forest-based economy, the settlement of nomads, and the expansion of the household economy.

Voters called for efforts to carry out wage reforms urgently and without delay; correct irrationalities and

unfairness in determining wage scales and bonus payment systems; and overcome the wide gap among various sectors, regions, economic and cultural establishments, as well as between cadres operating mass organizations and administrative and economic cadres.

Voters pointed out the need to establish appropriate wage and subvention systems for cadres at the grassroots level so that favorable conditions can be created for them to satisfactorily perform their duties. They also called on our state and society to satisfactorily implement policies toward war invalids, families of fallen combatants, retirees, and those having rendered services to the country in order to illustrate and develop the national and revolutionary traditions of Vietnam.

The state needs to invest properly in the universalization of primary education so that children of working families can go to school without having to pay school fees and other fees and the degradation of schools and education service can be stopped. The service in medical stations and hospitals should be improved so that the poor can receive medical treatment, and the situation where medical service is only provided to whoever is capable of paying should be stopped. It is necessary to establish hospitals which can provide free medical service to the poor.

Many democratic rights written in the Constitution are still being violated. It is hoped that the National Assembly can strictly supervise the application of the Constitution and laws in government offices, especially in law enforcement agencies, mass organizations, and the public.

Social vices are on the increase. Prostitution, gambling, robbery, and intoxicating, degrading, and violence-soliciting films and books have been loosely controlled. The voters suggest that the Ninth National Assembly spend time discussing this problem before issuing a resolution to deal with this problem in all sectors and levels.

About security and national defense, the voters, especially the war veterans and retired cadres, are worried much about the great changes in the world situation, which is causing difficulties for our national protection and construction. Given that situation, we suggest that, in addition to the application of the foreign policy of gaining more friends and reducing the number of our enemies in order to maintain peace, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, the National Assembly should develop the patriotism and revolutionary heroism and heighten the revolutionary vigilance of our people. The National Assembly needs to set aside an appropriate fund to safeguard the material and spiritual life of cadres and soldiers and to equip the army and people's security forces. Particularly, political stability must be preserved and national unity must be strengthened so as to foil any conspiracy aimed at sowing division among the people and frustrating the peaceful evolution strategy of hostile forces.

As regards legislation work and law application, the voters suggest that necessary laws on land use, labor, investment, bankruptcy, civil administration, border, youth obligation, and religion should be urgently promulgated, revised, or supplemented. They propose that information sessions on the Constitution and laws for cadres and the public should be better organized. Also, regulations specifying the application of the Constitution and laws should be constructed.

Voters who are cadres of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and mass organizations suggest that working liaison regulations between the government and Vietnam Fatherland Front at all levels should be established for better implementation of Article 9 of the 1992 Constitution.

The voters hope that the Ninth National Assembly will efficiently carry out its supreme supervision over the implementation of the Constitution, laws, and National Assembly resolutions. They also suggest that National Assembly deputies should contact the public as often as cadres and retired cadres. The contacts should be held in a simple and direct manner so that the public and the deputies can communicate and exchange views directly and the real living conditions of the public can be seen clearly by the deputies on the spot.